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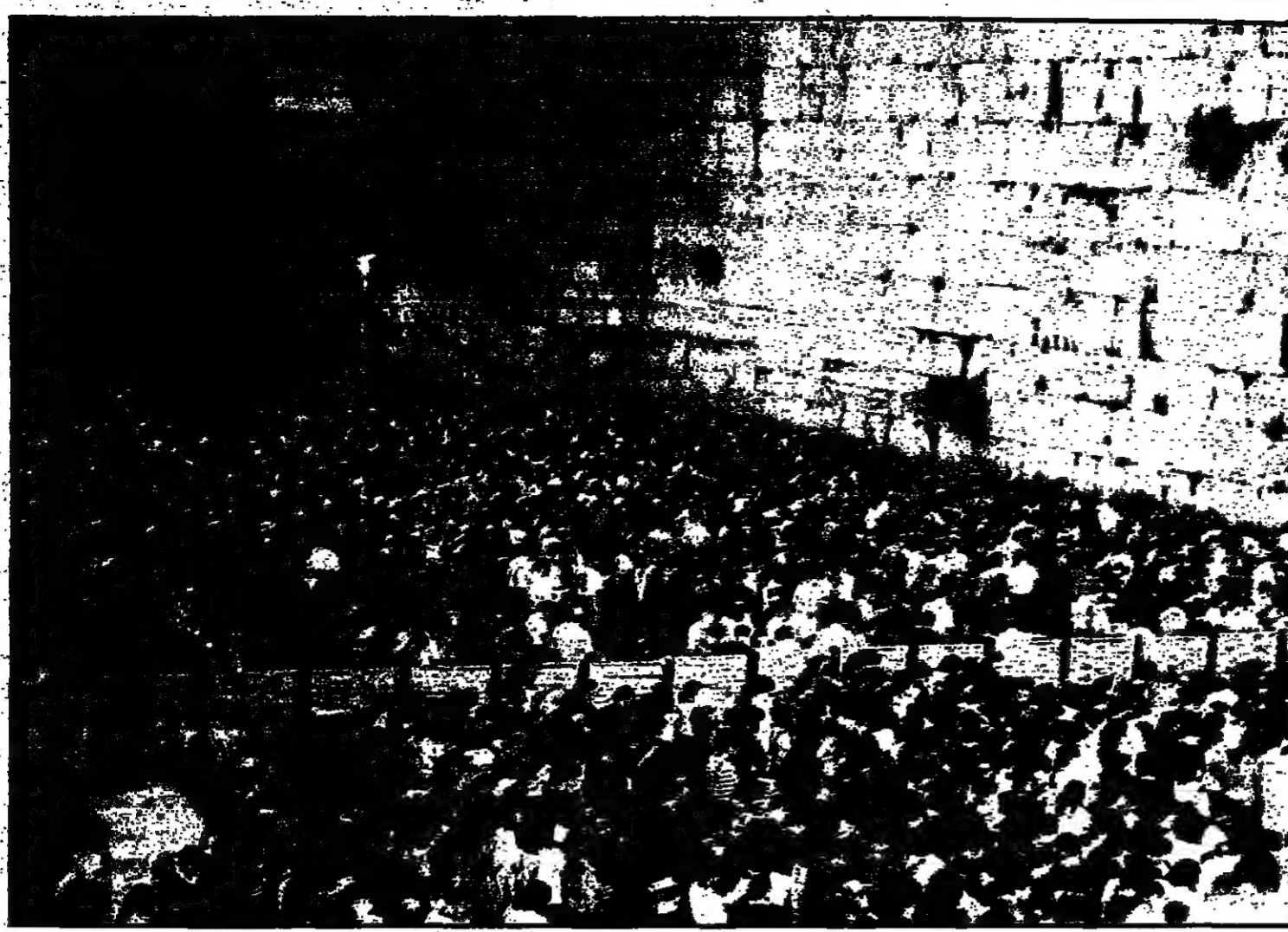
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VOLUME LXII, NUMBER 18788 FRIDAY, OCTOBER 14, 1994 • HESHVAN 9, 5755 • 1 JAMAD 9, 1415 NIS 4.80 (EILAT NIS 4.10)

IN TODAY'S JERUSALEM POST

- Shulamit Aloni expects the advent of peace to put Jewish ethics to the test. Section A.
- Two Jews and only two opinions! But the differences are fundamental, and they are between the head of military intelligence and his deputy. Steve Rodan investigates the army debate over Syria's intentions. Magazine.
- "Conservative" is not necessarily a dirty word for US Orthodox Jews. A new group, Toward Tradition, seeks to change American Jewry's liberal agenda. Hillel Kuttler reports from Washington. Section B.
- It's a new world in folk dancing: compact-discs replace accordions, the lambada supplants Yemenite steps. Judith Sudilovsky takes to the swirling floor. Time Out.



Thousands gather in front of the Western Wall last night to pray for the release of kidnapped soldier Nahshon Wachsmann. (Shai Hersh)

Nobel Peace Prize winners to be named this morning

AT 11 a.m. today, the Nobel Peace Prize Committee is expected to make it official that this year's award is being shared by Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin and PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat. Foreign Minister Shimon Peres, who played a key role in the Oslo accord, is not expected to win the prize. When asked last night by Channel One about his feelings at this moment, Peres replied, "There is only one issue now—the safe return of Nahshon Wachsmann." *David Makovsky*

Iraq agrees to Kuwaiti borders

BAGHDAD (Reuters) — Iraq accepted a Russian peace plan last night that calls for Baghdad to recognize the borders of Kuwait demarcated after the 1991 Gulf War, one of the main obstacles to the removal of sanctions, according to a joint Russian-Iraqi statement read on state television. Earlier story, Page A5.

50,000 pray at Wall for Wachsmann release

HERB KEINON
A CROWD that police estimated at more than 50,000 stood at solemn attention in front of the Western Wall last night and prayed with palpable intensity for the release of kidnapped soldier Nahshon Wachsmann. "Out of the depths have I called Thee, O Lord," the massive congregation thundered at one point, reading from Psalm 130. "Lord, hearken unto my voice; Let thine ears be attentive to the voice of my supplications." At another point, during the evening service's silent devotion, the massive crowd was so quiet that scattered sobs could be heard. The gathering was an outpouring of faith and of empathy. "I have six children," one man said, explaining why he came. "I can feel what the family is going through." Another man, Ronnie Lottner, said, "Today there is no politics. This is not about politics. Today everyone is Nahshon, or his father, his mother, his brothers. Today the divisions disappear." The gathering was made up primarily of those whose dress identi-

Wachsmans make ransom offer to Hamas

THE parents of kidnapped Cpl. Nahshon Wachsmann appealed to Hamas yesterday to consider releasing their son in exchange for money. Wachsmann's mother, Esther, also asked the US government to do all in its power to secure her son's release. Esther Wachsmann immigrated here from the US 25 years ago, and her children are binational. At an impromptu news conference held at their home in the Ramot section of Jerusalem, Wachsmann's father, Yehuda, said, "As a father I am looking for ways to get my son back whole, alive, and healthy, and I will take any steps I can to achieve that goal." He said he would raise from the

Deadline set by captors is tonight

Rabin: Arafat must choose between peace or Hamas

DAVID MAKOVSKY and JON IMMANUEL
AT 9 p.m. tonight, the deadline imposed by Cpl. Nahshon Wachsmann's Hamas captors expires. Hamas has stated it will kill Wachsmann if Israel does not release some 200 of the organization's prisoners, including Sheikh Ahmed Yassin. A senior security official predicted yesterday that the kidnappers would extend the deadline. The same source said Wachsmann is still alive and being held in Gaza. "We have no indication that he is not alive," said the source. Senior aides to Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin insisted late last night that "there are no negotiations" being conducted to free the soldier. Rabin told US Secretary of State Warren Christopher yesterday that PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat has to make a strategic choice of what is more important to him: peace or Hamas. Rabin remained at the Defense Ministry in Tel Aviv late last night, holding consultations with security aides. He cleared his schedule today to deal with the crisis and scheduled another special cabinet meeting for this morning to discuss the issue. Christopher appeared to back Rabin's decision to suspend peace negotiations with the Palestinians in response to the current crisis. "Right now, it is only natural," Christopher told reporters along-

side Rabin outside the Defense Ministry, before he headed to Damascus. He condemned the kidnapping as a "desperate rear-guard action" by Hamas, adding, "They will not succeed in killing the prospects for peace." Christopher said he told Arafat the PLO leader bears a "heavy responsibility" in Gaza. Rabin reiterated that unless Wachsmann is returned safely, this would have "severe consequences" for Israel's dialogue with the PLO. In a leaflet distributed in Gaza, the kidnappers set the 9 p.m. deadline for releasing their quadriplegic leader, Sheikh Ahmed Yassin, and 200 other prisoners. If Israel does not free the prisoners by then, the leaflet said, "The soldier will be immediately executed." The kidnappers on Wednesday released a videotape showing a dazed and frightened Wachsmann pleading with Rabin to meet his captors' demands. Otherwise he would be killed, Wachsmann said, as a masked man holding an automatic rifle stood behind him. Gaza police early yesterday arrested over 100 Islamic activists as they sought information about Wachsmann's whereabouts. Palestinian security sources told Israel Radio there was progress in the investigation and warned that more arrests are expected through the night. Israeli officials would not comment on the arrests in Gaza, which (Continued on Page 2)

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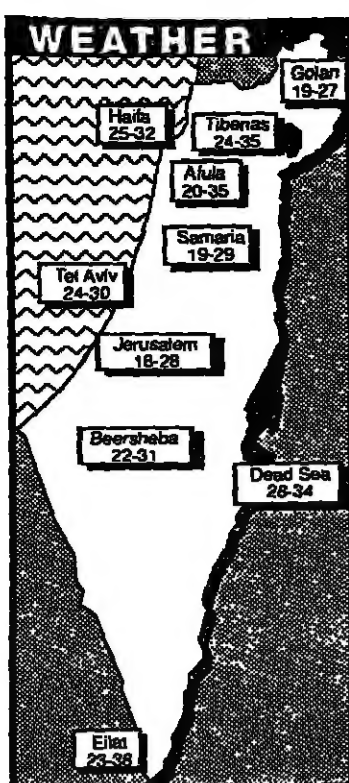
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Jerusalem	4:32	5:43
Tel Aviv	4:50	5:45
Haifa	4:41	5:43
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Brussels	10-17	17-23	cloudy
Calgary	-1-4	4-8	cloudy
Chicago	11-18	18-24	cloudy
Copenhagen	10-17	17-23	cloudy
Frankfurt	10-17	17-23	cloudy
Geneva	10-17	17-23	cloudy
Helsinki	10-17	17-23	cloudy
Hong Kong	24-30	30-36	cloudy
London	10-17	17-23	cloudy
Los Angeles	18-24	24-30	cloudy
Madrid	18-24	24-30	cloudy
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Paris	10-17	17-23	cloudy
Rome	10-17	17-23	cloudy
Tokyo	18-24	24-30	cloudy
Warsaw	10-17	17-23	cloudy
Zurich	10-17	17-23	cloudy

Winning numbers, cards

In last night's Payis Hazak drawing, the holder of ticket number 366913 won NIS 1,000,000.

The holder of ticket number 358002 won a Honda sports car.

Tickets numbered 843861, 368072, 483241, 837520, 202694, 090645, 635810, 209820, 546516, 245059, 224558, 509300, 203940, 316587, 487631, 894229, 216810, 458220, 336168, 834073, 247117, 809747, 372836, 613154, 413518 and 853451 won NIS 5,000. Those tickets ending in 32029, 09395, 28658, 44300, 25917, 98189, 65150, 16600, 80755, 05691, 63536, 65640, 06287, 52976, 16923, 01707, 39094, 62882 and 20793 won NIS 1,000. Tickets ending in 430, 927, 813, and 208 won NIS 100. Tickets ending in 12, 62, 59 and 26 won NIS 20. Tickets ending in 84, 87, 07, 90, 45, 86 and 21 won NIS 10. Tickets ending in 1 won NIS 7.

In yesterday's Mifal Hapayis daily Chance card draw, the lucky cards were the 9 of spades, Q of hearts, J of diamonds, and 8 of clubs.

Eggs to bear seller's name Starting March 13, 1995, all eggs sold in stores will have to bear the name or symbol of the seller and the last date on which they may be sold. The Health Ministry announced yesterday that eggs may be sold up to 16 days after they are sorted at poultry farms.

CORRECTION

The new Honduran ambassador to Israel is Francisco Lopez Reyes and not as published Wednesday.

More than 100 Islamic activists detained in Gaza

JON IMMANUEL

PALESTINIAN police yesterday arrested more than 100 Islamic activists in Gaza as they sought information about the kidnappers and whereabouts of Cpl. Nahshon Wachman.

Those arrested ranged from a 60-year-old imam to youth activists. "The Supreme Security committee is following up the case for the third night. We have arrested 110 people and are investigating them," said Nabil Abu Irdeineh, spokesman for PLO chairman Yasser Arafat.

Abu Irdeineh disputed an Israel Radio report late last night that the police had some information suggesting that Wachman was being held in Gaza. "We have not yet reached any conclusion that he is in our area, but in spite of that we are doing everything we can," he said.

Dr. Ahmed Tibi, an adviser to Arafat, who has been involved in mediation attempts, told reporters in Gaza earlier yesterday that he received information that Wachman was still alive and that he was not being held in Gaza.

A handwritten leaflet issued by Izzadin Kassam, the armed wing of Hamas, warned that Wachman would be killed a short while after tonight's 9 o'clock deadline if the government does not release over 200 prisoners, including Hamas leader Sheikh Ahmed Yassin.

The leaflet also said Wachman is not being held in Gaza or Jericho. The new leaflet followed a Channel 1 interview Wednesday night in which Yassin and Salah Shehadeh, another Hamas leader whose release was demanded, said the kidnappers should not kill the soldier.

Dr. Mahmoud Zahar, a leading Hamas activist, who was not arrested but

whose house was raided, said that he counted 117 people arrested in the police roundup.

"About 30 Palestinian police attacked my house at 1:30, broke down the door, smashed windows and took some papers," he said. He was not at home at the time.

Last month, a handful of Hamas supporters were released from Gaza jails following an agreement that Hamas would discourage confrontations with the police and the police would refrain from night arrests.

Zahar said yesterday's arrests were unjustified.

"What the Izzadin Kassam did is their independent policy and strategy," he said. However, he saw no other way to gain the release of Yassin. "If you have another way, let me know," he said.

Zahar said a report by Yassin's lawyer the day before the kidnapping saying that Israel would soon release Yassin on health grounds "was incorrect."

"There is tension now with the authorities, but whether it gets worse depends on the behavior of the authorities," he said.

Gaza police chief Ghazi Jabali said yesterday that there was only one authority in Gaza and that police would not tolerate another.

But, said Zahar, "Should a Palestinian accept an authority never elected by a Palestinian, created outside, supported by Arab countries and now by the Israeli authorities?"

While Gaza police were out in greater-than-usual force around Gaza yesterday, a parade of young Izzadin supporters marched to the home of Izzadin Jawhari, killed by police during Sunday's terrorist attack.



Yehuda and Esther Wachman, parents of kidnapped Cpl. Nahshon Wachman, during a press conference at their Jerusalem home. (Stein/Harari)

Weizman calls for banning of Hamas

LIAT COLLINS

PRESIDENT Ezer Weizman yesterday made an unprecedented attack on Hamas, calling for the organization to be banned.

Weizman stressed he is not involved in the decision-making process concerning the Nahshon Wachman kidnapping, although his staff is keeping him updated on the situation.

Following Sunday's terror attack in Jerusalem, Weizman hinted that Hamas's involvement in the elections in the autonomous areas should be re-evaluated.

"It [Hamas] should be fought, banned," Weizman said in an Israel Radio interview yesterday. "I don't want to talk about it too

much because the Israeli government is probably discussing the matter, but at any rate one can't just ignore the attack, the kidnapping, or the fact that they openly admit and state what they are doing or that they come from Gaza. This should be made clear to Arafat."

Asked whether this meant that Israel should not allow Hamas to participate in the elections in the autonomous areas, Weizman replied: "My feeling at the moment is yes. It should not be allowed to participate. But we should see how things develop. I have refrained

from expressing my opinions so far, except for phoning the Wachman family, because we are in a very pressured situation at the moment."

Meanwhile, Professor Yehoshua Porat of the Hebrew University's Middle East and Islamic Studies Institute said the Channel One interview in which imprisoned Hamas leader Sheikh Ahmed Yassin called on the captors not to harm the soldier was not significant.

"Yassin has been sitting in prison for a long time, and, as happens with such groups around the

world, he could get cut off from reality," he said. "Others can come and replace him while he's in prison and his power becomes eroded. The group's situation is changing, and a generation of activists is coming who hardly knows who is Sheikh Yassin. I think that capturing them and releasing our soldier will be more effective [than banning them]."

Two years ago in a similar prison interview, Yassin advised the Hamas captors of border policeman Nissan Toledano not to harm him, although it later turned out that Toledano had already been killed by the time Yassin spoke out.

Islamic leader calls on Hamas to acquiesce

DAVID RUDGE

SHIEKH Abdullah Nimr Darweesh, spiritual head of the Israeli Arab fundamentalist Islamic Movement yesterday made an emotional public appeal to the kidnappers of Cpl. Nahshon Wachman, asking them to return the soldier to his family.

He called on the kidnappers, in the name of God and of Islam, not to harm the soldier and to release him "alive and well."

"I denounce all those who try to legitimize kidnappings, whether it be the government, as in the case of those kidnapped from south Lebanon, or any organizations," said Darweesh, in an interview with Israel Radio.

"Today, I call on those people who have kidnapped the soldier to abide by the request of their leader, Sheikh Ahmed Yassin, and to behave properly towards him and ensure his safety and well-being."

"I hope that they saw the tears of the soldier's mother, and the pain on

the faces of his brother and father and that this has gotten through to their hearts and minds. I call on them to release him, even if the government does not answer their demands," said Darweesh.

By the same token, he also urged Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin to release Yassin, the crippled leader of Hamas, from jail, without any connection to the kidnapping of Wachman.

"In the name of religion, of God, and in the name of what they [the kidnappers] believe in, I call on them to safeguard the young man and return him to his mother," urged Darweesh in the interview.

Raine Marcus adds: A spokesman for the security prisoners in Ashkelon Jail issued the following statement last night.

"I Salim Abu Safia on behalf of all organizations, Fatah, PFLP, Islamic Jihad and Hamas appeal to Izzadin Kassam, with an open heart and full responsibility not to harm the kidnapped soldier."

Safia stressed that all prisoners there called on the kidnappers to treat Wachman as a human being according to the Islamic and Jewish faith.

"He has a family, a mother, a father, brothers and we urge Izzadin Kassam to find a solution to this crisis," said Safia.

DEADLINE

(Continued from Page 1)

began late Wednesday night. Arafat spokesman Nabil Abu Irdeineh disputed an Israel Radio report late last night that the police had information suggesting Wachman is being held in Gaza.

"We have not yet reached any conclusion that he is in our area, but in spite of that we are doing everything we can," he said.

Arafat adviser Ahmed Tibi, who has been involved in mediation attempts, told reporters in Gaza earlier yesterday that he received information Wachman is still alive and that he is not being held in Gaza.

US President Bill Clinton yesterday condemned Wachman's abduction and urged Arafat to help get him freed.

"President Clinton strongly condemns the cruel and cowardly abduction of Israeli Corporal Nahshon Wachman by the violent terrorist group Hamas," White House spokeswoman Dee Dee Myers said in a statement.

"The president expects chairman Arafat to do all in his power to ensure Corporal Wachman's safe return to his family," Myers said.

"The president shares the anguish and grief of the Wachman family and conveys the sympathy and prayers of the American people for his safe and speedy return," Myers said.

Russia requests Wachman's release

MOSCOW (Reuters) — Russia yesterday called for the immediate release of kidnapped Cpl. Nahshon Wachman and said it hopes the incident does not derail negotiations between Israel and the PLO.

Foreign Ministry spokesman Mikhail Demurin told a briefing Russia strongly condemned the kidnapping, describing it as "an attempt by extremists to darken the atmosphere of Israeli-Palestinian talks."

"The Israeli soldier must be re-

leased immediately," he said.

He added that Moscow hopes the leaders of the PLO and Israel would react in a "wise and far-sighted way" and keep talking.

In Geneva, the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) appealed yesterday for Wachman's life to be spared, and said it would consider playing a mediator's role if asked by both sides.

The agency said its delegates are in touch with Hamas as well as Palestinian authorities to remind

them that the taking of hostages and the execution of prisoners is banned under international law.

"If the two parties asked us to intervene, we would consider playing a mediating role. But for the time being, we have no such role," a spokesman at the Geneva-based ICRC told Reuters.

"Our delegates in the field have intervened to get our message across that an execution of prisoners is forbidden," he said.

ICRC delegates are also in contact with Israel, he added.

RANSOM

(Continued from Page 1)

US citizen, she was demanding the US government work to free her son.

"In the name of peace, you have opened a new era. I believe that the day will come when you will also talk to Hamas. I turn to you, in this case of life and death, and say, speak to Hamas [now], and if you don't, I hold you responsible for my son's fate."

The US consul-general in Jerusalem visited the family and said the United States is trying to secure his release.

"We are doing everything we can to see their son is released unharmed and to convey to them what we've been doing," consul Edward Abington said. (Itin)

Police detain journalists

PALESTINIAN police in Gaza arrested seven journalists yesterday, and questioned them about how they obtained a videotape of a missing soldier Nahshon Wachman.

The journalists included four from the Reuters news service, which circulated two videos on Tuesday and Wednesday. One showed a masked Hamas activist holding Wachman, and the other showing Wachman pleading for his life.

In Jerusalem, Israeli police arrested Reuters cameraman Munir Abu Shilbayeh after questioning him at home for two hours about his suspected involvement with Hamas, Reuters said.

Robert Mahoney, Reuters' chief correspondent in Jerusalem, said that four Palestinian journalists in Gaza, photographers Shams Oudeh and Ahmed Jadallah, soundman Sawah Abu Seif, and newsman Taher Sharieh were freed yesterday morning. But they were rearrested later in the day and are still being held, Reuters said.

Palestinian spokesman Marwan Kanafani said that the journalists were "responsible for the dispatch of news which caused a disturbance and caused embarrassment for the authority." (AP)

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US Secretary of State Warren Christopher meets yesterday with Batya Arad, mother of missing IAF navigator Ron Arad. Christopher promised to raise the issue with Syrian President Hafez Assad when the two met later in the day. (Isaac Harari)

Rabin: Long road to peace with Syria

DAVID MAKOVSKY

THERE is still a long road ahead to a peace accord with Syria, Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin said yesterday while standing alongside Secretary of State Warren Christopher after the two held a second round of talks yesterday.

"I believe that there are things which are certainly not at the center of the problems between us and Syria," Rabin said. "[Indeed] there are things which may sound more accommodating. But the gaps remain large, and it would take a great amount of time and effort on the part of the secretary of state to have those gaps bridged."

Rabin's remarks came after Israeli sources insisted that Christopher brought some new ideas from Damascus, particularly on the subject of

Golan demilitarization.

"Both of us are resolved to try to keep the peace process under way on the tracks where it is possible," Christopher told reporters.

Christopher returned yesterday afternoon to Damascus for another round of talks, but his effort has been eclipsed by the kidnapping of Cpl. Nahshon Wachsmann. Christopher said he would urge Assad to condemn the kidnapping.

Meanwhile, a well-placed government source who had supported the idea that Syrian Foreign Minister Farouk Shara give an interview to Israel Television, said he changed his mind after hearing some of Shara's remarks.

"I now think this interview caused more harm than good," the source said. "Shara said the existence of the state of Israel is a problem. Public reaction in Israel has turned negative."

At the same time, Rabin pledged yesterday that peace talks with Syria and other Arab countries would continue, despite Israel's suspension of negotiations with the PLO following the Hamas kidnapping.

Christopher met earlier with the families of missing IAF navigator Ron Arad and of missing soldier Yehuda Katz.

After the news conference with Rabin, Christopher met with Foreign

Minister Shimon Peres before flying to Damascus.

Christopher said he would point out recent terrorist acts to Syrian President Hafez Assad and try "to find some common ground there between us on issues of this character."

"I believe they will recognize that this is a totally unprincipled and unjustified act with no redeeming feature at all, and that certainly is my position about it," he said.

The Syrian newspaper *al-Baath*, organ of the ruling Baath party, reiterated demands for full withdrawal from the Golan Heights.

"Israeli leaders have no option but to announce their acceptance of returning the lands which were occupied in 1967 if they want the peace process to move forward," it said.

Jordan peace treaty possible within a month

DAVID MAKOVSKY and news agencies

FOLLOWING a meeting with King Hussein in Amman on Wednesday night, Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin believes a peace treaty is within reach, his aides say, adding they believe it would be possible to wrap up an agreement next month.

However, international financing must first be found for the construction of two dams on the Yarmouk and Jordan Rivers, Israeli sources said.

Some say Rabin would like a peace treaty signed during his visit to the US next month. Speaking before the Knesset last week, the prime minister pledged that such a treaty would be signed before the end of the year. US sources believe Rabin wants to wrap up a treaty with Jordan soon, thinking this would improve his leverage in negotiations with Syrian President Hafez Assad.

"I hope very much what I said, that by the end of this year a peace treaty would be signed between Israel and Jordan. I hope we will make it a little earlier," Rabin said, after meeting US Secretary of State Warren Christopher in Tel

Aviv.

According to Israeli sources, Foreign Minister Shimon Peres held talks in Europe last weekend with European Union officials, believing he has secured their agreement to finance half the estimated \$125 million needed to construct the two dams and to desalinate brackish water around the Kinneret that would be forwarded to Jordan.

Foreign Ministry Director-General Uri Savir is supposed to travel with Jordanian Information Minister Jawad Anani to Washington next week, to see if the US-backed Overseas Private Investment Corporation (OPIC) will finance the remaining sum.

Rabin and Hussein agreed in Amman that should this financing be gained, it would remove a major stumbling block to the signing of a peace treaty. An estimated 50 million cubic meters of water would be funneled to Jordan by the dams-and-desalination project, and would sizably narrow the

gap in water allocation between the two sides.

However, Hussein told Rabin Wednesday last night that even if the financing is obtained, Jordan would still have some water claims to press against Israel before a treaty is signed.

Jordan accuses Israel of unfairly taking water under the US-brokered water agreement set in the 1950's.

Jordan's chief peace negotiator said the talks Wednesday night helped narrow gaps over key disputes to be solved before a full peace treaty.

"The meeting between King Hussein and the Israeli prime minister gives a big boost to the negotiators of the two sides in bridging the gap that still exists on the three main issues of land, border and water," Fayeze Tarawneh, was quoted as saying by the state news agency Petra.

Tarawneh said Wednesday's talks "would give the negotiators the incentive to push them to speed up reaching common ground on all the other specialized issues" being discussed.

'Saudis to establish ties after peace with Syria'

DAVID MAKOVSKY

even on their [radar] scope as a threat."

Referring to plans by American and Saudi companies to jointly launch a commercial photo-imaging satellite in 1996 - capable of gathering highly detailed pictures over an estimated 3,000 km. radius - Moses quoted Saudi leaders as saying the project is currently "on hold. They said they would reconsider their support for the project, which is being promoted by a Saudi businessman. The Saudis said that, even if it goes through, they would not want pictures of Israeli installations, because this could jeopardize their military relationship with the US."

This past June, the US Commerce Department approved the joint effort, saying the satellites would be controlled by Americans. However, the US military, the Central Intelligence Agency, and Israel are all believed to oppose the project on the grounds that satellite data could be diverted or intercepted and sensitive military information could be compromised.

On the topic of economic assistance, the Saudi leaders made clear this week that neither Israel nor any of the Arab states should count on their funding of any Middle East multilateral regional economic development projects. Moses quoted the Saudis as saying, "Don't look to us to pay the bills" for multilateral economic projects,

saying the only multilateral regional issues that interest Riyadh are the environment and arms proliferation.

Indeed, with the price of oil remaining low, Saudi Arabia has felt the economic pinch. It slashed its spending by an estimated 20 percent last year, and asked American arm creditors to reschedule an estimated \$30 billion in payments over a longer period of time.

The Saudis sounded equally uncompromising about Saddam Hussein. They believe that Iraq's massing of troops along the Kuwait border has reemphasized the need for the US to get rid of Saddam Hussein, according to Moses. The Saudis "want Saddam wiped off the face of the earth. They are critical of the US for not finishing the job in 1991 [after the Gulf War]," Moses said.

"They want to see it finished now, and they are not concerned about the dismemberment of Iraq," Moses said. Another regional threat is Iran, the Saudis reportedly say, adding that Riyadh believes Iran was behind the recent explosion of the Jewish community building in Buenos Aires.

Saudi leaders spoke praisingly of both Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin, whom they see as making tough decisions for peace, and Foreign Minister Shimon Peres. Several Saudi ministers told the AJC group that they have read Peres's book, *The New Middle East*, Moses said.

Reports: IDF, SLA crack down on security zone residents

DAVID RUDGE

IDF and South Lebanese Army troops are cracking down on villagers inside the security zone and members of the SLA itself suspected of collaborating with Hizbullah, according to reports in Lebanese newspapers.

Nearly 50 Moslem residents of two villages in the zone have been evicted from their homes and temporarily expelled from the region in the past few days, the reports said.

Lebanese newspapers carried stories yesterday saying that 40 SLA personnel had been detained for questioning on suspicion of having ties with Hizbullah's military arm, the Islamic Resistance, or other organizations opposed to Israel's presence in south Lebanon.

The reports said the arrests followed attacks on senior members of the SLA last week in Bint Jbeil village, in the western sector, and near Huneh village in the eastern part of the zone.

Since then, according to the reports, IDF and SLA troops have

cracked down on a number of villages, especially Huleh, Markabeh and Ajlun.

The reports said curfews had been imposed on the villages, the movements of residents restricted and several house-to-house search operations had been mounted.

The IDF has maintained a strong silence regarding the ongoing crackdown against suspected collaborators inside the security zone, as well as over the expulsion of residents from Huneh and Huleh villages.

One of the evicted Huneh residents told reporters in Lebanon he was convinced the IDF was behind the move and was using the SLA as cover. The reports said 23 of the 26 residents evicted from Huneh had been allowed to return to their homes.

Lebanese Foreign Minister Faris Boutros has called on UN secretary-general Boutros Boutros-Ghali to help put an end to what he described as "Israel's new style of displacing people in south Lebanon."

Casablanca conference helps peace, Peres says

JOSE ROSENFELD

POINTING at poverty as the region's major source of instability, Foreign Minister Shimon Peres yesterday called the upcoming Casablanca regional economic conference a first step towards meeting the area's needs and creating a peaceful atmosphere.

Peres addressed fellow ministers, Knesset members, businessmen and journalists that will participate at the meeting in Morocco, at a seminar held yesterday in Tel Aviv to prepare for the conference, which opens on October 30.

He noted that with the region's population of 300 million doubling within 20 years, failure to deal with the area's economic problems now will only magnify political difficulties in the future.

A major aim of the conference is to turn the Middle East into a region worth investing in, he said.

"If only half of the \$13 trillion that the countries in the region invested in Europe and in weapons would have been invested here, we would

see a wholly different Middle East," said Peres.

Emphasizing the changed atmosphere in the area, Peres noted the condemnation of terrorism by Arab and Moslem countries in response to the kidnapping of Nahshon Wachsmann. "It is still not what we would like to see, but it is still different than the way it was before," he said.

Israel will propose 150 possible regional development projects, about half of which relate to water, estimated to cost \$25 billion over a period of 10 years. In addition, the business sector will present concrete business proposals.

Manufacturers Association President Dan Propoy, who is coordinating the private sector effort, said that the Israeli business delegation will present 140 "very concrete, very practical business projects."

These plans consist of projects totaling over \$100 million, said Propoy. They include 120 industrial projects, 15 in trade and 5 in tourism.

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Aloni slams religious community, settlers

HERB KEINON

THE religious establishment and the settlers received a tongue-lashing yesterday from Communications Minister Shulamit Aloni during an address at the Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion in Jerusalem, where she received an honorary doctorate.

"The religious establishment has accrued dominant power and assets, and has fostered ignorance, ritual, and superstitions," Aloni said. "As its arbitrariness and authority have grown, it has alienated the general public not only from the synagogue, but also from any knowledge of Judaism and its universal heritage in the domains of values and ethics."

Regarding settlers, Aloni said, "Messianic fervor on the part of religious, chauvinistic, gun-toting Jews, under IDF protection - in the name of the Jewish people's rights and its heritage - ousts those who have inhabited this land for generations. None of this has helped foster the Jewish ethic and Jewish identity among liberal-minded individuals who believe in human rights."

According to Aloni, the "upshot of war and occupation, and the growing feeling of power - combined with the self-righteousness of the person who was victimized for so many years - is that many values have been distorted."

"We are proud of the Bible," Aloni said earlier in the speech. "For years and years chapter one of the Book of Isaiah was kept under wraps in Israel; the Book of Joshua was the



Communications Minister Shulamit Aloni receives an honorary doctorate yesterday from the Reform Movement's Hebrew Union College in Jerusalem. Presenting the award is college president Rabbi Alfred Gottschalk (right) and Rabbi Uri Regev.

main thing - all conquest and settlements.

And yet, Aloni said, it is Isaiah, and not the stories of Joshua, who turned the Bible into the Book of Books. "Victorious conquerors appear apiently at the dawn of all people's cultures, but in our case the key sentence is 'Justice shall redeem

Zion, and righteousness her repentant people,' from Isaiah," she said.

Although Aloni did not touch on the Shas-Labor coalition agreement, Alfred Gottschalk, the president of HUC, said that "Israel's democracy would be compromised by the agreement, and it would create a rift between Israel and world Jewry."

In response, United Tora Judaism MK Moshe Gafni said he would recommend his party submit a motion of no-confidence in the government over Aloni's remarks. "Aloni is continuing her antisemitic expressions against rabbis and the religious community," Gafni said. "And the stage on which she chose to say these

words is very fitting." HUC is affiliated with the Reform Movement.

The bestowal of an honorary degree on Aloni, as well as on Hebrew University Prof. Gershon Shaked and Chone Shmeruk, and Hebrew Union College's Rabbi Stanley Klinger, came during a ceremony ordaining two Reform rabbis.

Man remanded in Ashdod murder

RAINE MARCUS and him

A MAN who allegedly shot and killed Motti Ben-David at Ashdod Port late Wednesday night was remanded for 10 days yesterday by the Ashdod Magistrate's Court.

Ben-David, 22, was shot three times in the chest at close range, apparently by three men who fled in a white car.

Border policemen nearby heard the shots and saw the men escaping. The getaway car was found later in the sand dunes, and Gabi Razenshtvil was arrested nearby.

Ben-David was found at the edge of the port area. Magen David Adom doctors pronounced him dead at the

scene. The victim's father, Haim, came to the port to identify the body.

Police said Ben-David's murder was a criminal one, likely a settling of scores between rival gangs in the area. They said it was linked to a stabbing the previous night in Ashdod.

Razenshtvil, 24, denied any involvement in the murder. He told the court yesterday that his car had gotten stuck in the sand and he was waiting for help.

But Judge Haviy Amar ruled that the police had evidence implicating him in the murder, and ordered him held.

Boxing champion charged with pimping, assault

RAINE MARCUS

THE national lightweight boxing champion was charged yesterday by the Tel Aviv District Court with importing women from Russia, forcing them to work as prostitutes, and assaulting them.

Boxing champ Meizel Viachislav, 22, and Boris Tolchinsky, 30, are accused of bringing an unspecified number of women here as immigrants and then stealing their absorption benefits. According to the indictment, they then forced the women to work in massage parlors as prostitutes. The two also reportedly took most of the women's earnings.

During 1993, the charge sheet says, the two conspired with another man, Alexander Rachister, to bring the women here under false pretenses.

Viachislav and Rachister traveled to Birobidjan in the CIS at the end of 1993 and underwent fictitious marriages with women there for the sole purpose of bringing them here as part of their scheme. When the women received money and benefits from the Absorption Ministry, these were allegedly appropriated by Viachislav and Tolchinsky.

The women were locked in their rooms at the Tel Aviv massage parlors and subjected to violent beatings and rapes, the indictment states.

In requesting their remand until trial, the prosecution said the pair were motivated solely by greed. The two will remain in custody until a decision is given on their further remand at a hearing scheduled for November 1.

Strikes plague Safed, Acre municipalities

SAFED municipal workers began a general strike yesterday after not receiving their September salaries, joining city workers imposing sanctions for the same reason in Acre and Beersheba.

In Or Yehuda, however, 450 municipal employees returned to work yesterday after the town promised to pay their September wages. "Next month we'll strike immediately if we don't get paid," said union leader Yossi Zuzart.

The debt-stricken Safed Municipality - with a deficit of some NIS 24 million - also owes money to Mekorot (the national water company), to Bezek, and to the Israel Electric Corporation.

In addition to not paying last month's salaries, the city has reportedly not made payments to workers' pension, health, and advanced study funds.

Tourist sites in Acre remained open yesterday, despite a strike since Sunday by 800 municipal workers, who are also demanding their last month's wages. The Tourism Ministry has been flooded with calls since the labor action began, because municipal workers at the city's many popular sites have refused to answer phones as part of their sanctions.

Acre's deficit is estimated at more than NIS 30m.

In Beersheba, the walkout Sunday by some 1,700 municipal employees continued yesterday. Workers there accused the municipality of violating the law by not making the required payments into their pension, savings, and study funds, saying the city was using this money to help cover its deficit. (Itim)

TAAS staff protest possible plant closure

HUNDREDS of TAAS-Israel Industries workers demonstrated at their Haifa plant yesterday against its possible closure.

Chanting "Bread and work" and "Rabin, go home," the workers were responding to an announcement on Wednesday by TAAS general manager Gabi Komisar that the Finance Ministry had asked him to examine transferring the company's aviation work from its Jerusalem plant to Israel Aircraft Industries, instead of to the Haifa plant.

The workers claim such a move would contradict a decision by the TAAS management of

over a year ago to transfer the Jerusalem aviation work to Haifa.

After informing the union leader at the Haifa plant, Haim Salzman, of the Treasury request, Komisar also told him that a decision not to transfer the Jerusalem work to IAI would necessitate transferring the Haifa plant's aviation work to Israel Aircraft Industries instead.

According to Haifa Histadrut sources, the TAAS management is considering closing both Haifa plants - a bridge factory and a facility for making rocket launchers.

"After an entire recovery plan and after

everything that TAAS has gone through in general - and in Haifa in particular - of firing workers and reducing the work force from 2,600 to 950, they want to come to us now and give us this 'prize,'" Salzman said. "Our plant is profitable and something like this just can't happen."

In response, the TAAS management said in a statement that no decision has been reached concerning the plant transfers, which the government has requested as part of the Defense Ministry's multi-year plan. TAAS's strategy with regard to the plan is to be presented to the government at the end of the month. (Itim)

Palestinians petition court to overturn Jerusalem expropriation order

EVELYN GORDON

THE state has no right to confiscate Palestinian lands in Jerusalem's Har Homa region to build yet another Jewish neighborhood, a petition to the High Court of Justice said yesterday.

The petition, filed by 18 Palestinian landowners from the villages of Um-Tuba and Beit Tsaor and the Ir-Shalem organization, asked the court to overturn the expropriation order.

Alternatively, it asked that the court order the expropriated lands be used to build an Arab neighborhood instead.

The petition said that since 1967, more than a third of the land

in east Jerusalem has been expropriated. Most of this land was owned by Palestinians, the petition said, but it was used to build housing units only for Jews.

"The fact that Palestinians in Jerusalem are included within the 'public' from which the lands are expropriated, but are not included within the 'public' for which the lands were expropriated, is not only illegal and opposed to every rule of basic fairness, [but] it also makes the idea of co-existence in one city impossible," Ir-Shalem said in a printed summary of the

petition. Furthermore, the petition said, the Arab population needs new housing more than do the Jews. Thirty-one percent of Arab households have more than three people per room, it said, and 61% have more than two people per room, compared to only 3% and 13%, respectively, for Jewish households.

Finally, the petition charged, the expropriated land in Har Homa is not even needed for the planned Jewish neighborhood. It is merely being taken to prevent Palestinians from building there, the petition said.

Woman's lung re-attached after surgery

JUDY SIEGEL

IN an extremely rare procedure, a woman's only lung was removed from her body so that a tumor could be cut away from her bronchial tube and trachea, after which the organ was re-attached.

The 45-year-old woman from the

North is in good condition and will soon be discharged from Haifa's Carmel Hospital, where the surgery was performed.

This type of operation has been performed only a handful of times anywhere in the world. The surgeons were Prof. Gidon Uretzky and Dr.

Milton Sauts of Carmel's cardiothoracic surgery department.

A few months ago, the woman underwent an operation for the removal of her left lung because of a tumor. Recently, another tumor - discovered in her right lung - nearly asphyxiated her. Because the tumor was inaccessable, the lung was disconnected from her air tube and the tumor removed, while she was kept breathing by a heart-lung machine.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Lubavitch Rebbe gets Congressional award

The late Lubavitcher rebbe, Menachem Mendel Schneerson, has been awarded the Congressional Gold Medal.

The resolution, which passed just before Congress's recent adjournment, notes how Schneerson "inspired people to a renewal of individual values of spirituality, cooperation and love of learning." The Treasury Department will now design and strike a medal, to be funded by private donations.

NY Conservative seminary gets \$15m. grant

The Jewish Theological Seminary of America, which trains rabbis and cantors for the Conservative movement, has received a \$15 million grant to establish a graduate school of Jewish education.

The gift, made by Michigan industrialist William Davidson, is the largest donation ever received by a single institution of Jewish learning in the United States.

Seminary officials told *The New York Times* that they will use the endowment to expand the school's current graduate program in Jewish education, to introduce continuing education for professionals, and to open a new center for research on Jewish education.

Woman who hit and bit neighbor sentenced

A woman who hit her neighbor with a broomstick and bit her when she began suspecting the neighbor was having an affair with her husband, was convicted of aggravated assault by the Tel Aviv Magistrate's Court yesterday.

Maor Yehuda was sentenced to six months' probation, fined NIS 750, and was ordered to post a bond of NIS 2,500, to be forfeited if she commits a similar crime in the next two years. Judge A. Binyamin did not believe Yehuda's denials, and said the court must make clear to the public that violence is not the way to resolve disputes.

However, he said he took the fact that Yehuda had no criminal record and the type of dispute involved into consideration, and issued a light sentence.

Rabin cuts red tape on housing construction

Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin, in his capacity as acting interior minister, yesterday signed into effect a regulation permitting the building of 20 percent more apartments in certain areas, without requiring the approval of local planning boards.

The additional apartments are to be 75 square meters in size and built in areas planned for apartments of greater than 100 sq.m., in order to provide a greater and cheaper variety, the Prime Minister's Office announced.



Part of a group of 16 wives of foreign ambassadors yesterday visit the pediatric oncology department at Hadassah-University Hospital in Jerusalem's Ein Kerem. The women, led by Omar Gokce of Turkey, are members of an organization of diplomatic wives which raises money for equipment for the department. (Avi Hayoun)

Ex-collaborator accused of raping tourists

RAINE MARCUS

A FORMER collaborator suspected of raping tourists was remanded yesterday for five days by the Tel Aviv Magistrate's Court.

Police said that Yassia Rafai, a resident of south Tel Aviv, posed as a tour guide and lured female tourists who wanted to become volunteers at kibbutzim around the country. Photographs of women he "entertained" were found at his home.

Police said in court that Rafai had helped the General Security Service during the intifada, and was allowed to live and work in the

city. Scores of collaborators originally from the territories live in the city's southern neighborhoods.

Rafai would allegedly wait outside the United Kibbutz Movement building on Arlosoroff Street, where he would stop young women tourists who hoped to work on kibbutzim for a short period of time.

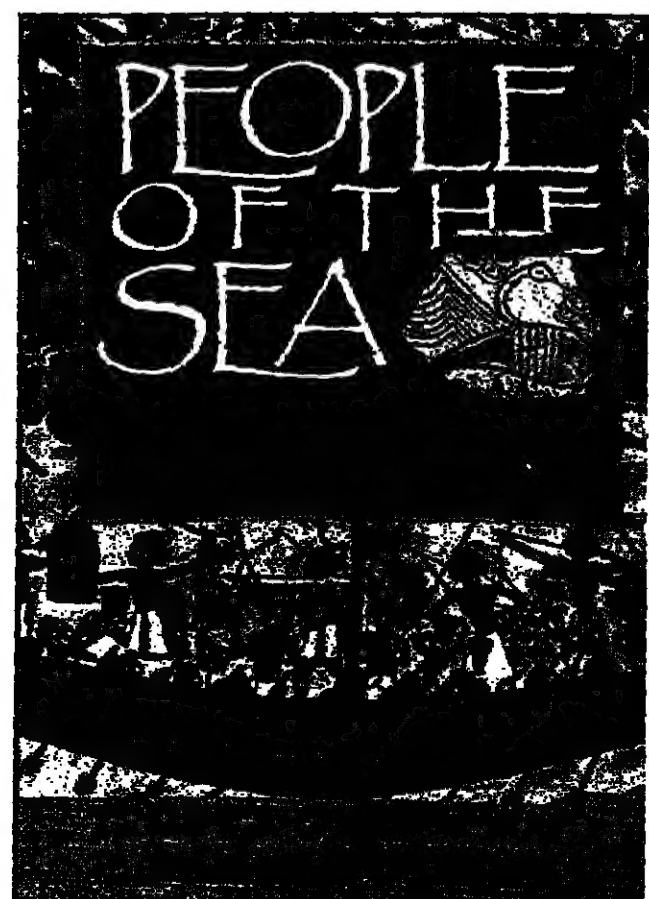
He allegedly told them that he could arrange their placements on kibbutzim, and offered them board and lodging at his home

while he made the arrangements.

But once they came to his apartment, he allegedly assaulted and raped them. The most recent incident was reported by a tourist to police on Sunday.

An additional complaint arrived from the UKM's New York office. One tourist had returned immediately to the US after the suspect allegedly assaulted her.

Judge Nira Lidaky ordered police to send Rafai to Abarbanel Mental Hospital for psychiatric evaluations, to determine if he is fit to stand trial.



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In deep sorrow, we announce the passing of my wife and my sister

Dr. HANSI LAVIE

The funeral will take place today, Friday, October 14, 1994 (9 Heshvan 5755) at 11 a.m. at the Hayarkon Cemetery (Trans-Samaria Highway).

Mourning by:

Her husband, Yehuda Ernst Lavie
Her sister, Dr. Grete Mahrer
Her niece, and husband,
Neomi and Beni Agmon
daughters and grandchildren

In deep sorrow, we announce the passing on Yom Kippur, September 15, 1994, of

SADIE FIGLER ז"ל

née Serchuk, born in Quebec City 1903

widow of Bernard Figler O.C. ז"ל

Beloved mother of:

Son: Israel and Ruby Figler, Montreal

Daughters: Miriam and Asher Shadmon, Jerusalem

Ghita and Frank Wolff, Ottawa

Grandchildren: Josh, Sheba, Pia, Raine, Susan, Pamela, Karen

Cherished great-grandmother of fifteen

The funeral and shiva took place in Montreal, Canada.

ז"ל זכור בך

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Dr. SIDNEY EDELSTEIN

who passed away on September 26, 1994

Expert: Saddam games to continue

ANALYSIS

DAVID RUDGE

IRAQI president Saddam Hussein's game of brinkmanship with the US-led international coalition will almost certainly continue, despite the withdrawal of his troops from near the Kuwait border, Dr. Amatzia Baram, an expert on Iraqi affairs told *The Jerusalem Post* yesterday.

He also warned that the longer it continues, the greater would be the risk of a confrontation between the opposing forces.

Baram, a senior lecturer at Haifa University, said that in the event of a confrontation, Saddam would probably try to provoke Israel with Scud missile attacks, provided he still had the capability.

"If not, he might try achieve the same end by means of terrorist attacks on 'soft' US and Israeli targets abroad," said Baram.

"If it leads to a confrontation, it won't be an accident. The man knows what he is doing, and he is more desperate than most people think," said Baram.

"His real problem is the domestic front. On September 25, he cut food rations, which are the lifeline of the people, by between 30-50 percent. If he had to cut so much it means that he is running out of foreign currency, and his reserves are down to almost zero."

"He has probably only got enough money left to pay for a few more months of rations. He needs about \$1.5 billion dollars a year for these rations and other expenses and he is making only

about half a billion dollars a year."

Baram said the crime rate in Iraq was "astounding" and prices astronomical. He noted that prices of basic food commodities doubled on one day alone last month, and the rises were continuing.

"Iraqi society appears to be crumbling and this is one of Saddam's problems. Even in the ruling elite, who have been shielded from the economic ravages, there are clear signs of discontent and he has to contain this resentment."

"Most importantly, Saddam made explicit public promises that the embargo would soon be lifted and he has to live up to his word."

Baram maintained that Saddam was using US President Bill Clinton to terrify his own people - forcing them to lower their economic expectations rather than face an all-out military confrontation.

"But this only a temporary measure and eventually people will start complaining again. The pressure is on Saddam, and even if he climbs down now he will have to do something in the coming weeks or months to stir international excitement and concern," said Baram.

"The way he looks at it, he must prove his nuisance value until the embargo is lifted. The question is whether the US will accept a standoff which would basically be a victory for Saddam," he added.



US Marines take part in a live exercise north of Kuwait City yesterday as the buildup of American troops continues. (AP)

Russian FM in Baghdad in attempt to end Iraq crisis

BAGHDAD (Renter) - Russian Foreign Minister Andrei Kozyrev, admitting to differences with Washington, flew into Baghdad yesterday carrying proposals to defuse the latest US-Iraq confrontation.

US President Bill Clinton said yesterday that Iraq "heard our message" and was withdrawing Republican Guard units from the Kuwait border but a US military buildup would go on until the Iraqi threat was gone.

Speaking to a broadcasters' convention in Los Angeles via satellite, Clinton said the Iraqi pull-back from the Kuwaiti border was broad-based, that only a few Republican Guard units remained and that they were withdrawing as well.

"I'm pleased to say that Iraq heard our message. Its forces have begun a broad retreat from the border area," Clinton said. "Only a few Republican Guard units remain in southern Iraq, and they are withdrawing too."

"We're watching the situation very very carefully and we'll continue to deploy our forces in the Gulf until we are satisfied that Kuwait no longer poses a threat to Kuwait."

Moscow's Kozyrev was met at Baghdad airport by Iraqi Foreign Minister Mohammad Saeed al-Sabab but there was no further indication of his plans, which Iraq hopes will provide support for President Saddam Hussein's demand for easing UN economic sanctions.

Saddam, who has not appeared in public or made any speeches during the crisis that began last week with a buildup of Iraqi troops near the southern border with Kuwait, met two Russian envoys on Wednesday and was expected to hold talks with Kozyrev.

In Jeddah, US Defense Secretary William Perry said yesterday the US troop buildup in the Gulf will reach only 50,000 and they could start returning home within weeks after Iraq withdraws forces

from the Kuwait border.

But he said Iraqi arms were a long-term threat to the region and a more powerful force of US warplanes will remain for the foreseeable future to police Baghdad's actions and make sure President Saddam Hussein does not again threaten moderate Gulf states.

A brief report on Kozyrev's arrival by the official Iraqi News Agency said only he would discuss the regional situation.

An embassy spokesman would not say who he was meeting and Kozyrev's air crew checked into a hotel for just one night.

Russian Embassy Second Secretary Yuri Kleimenov said he understood Kozyrev would visit more than one Gulf country before heading to New York on Monday for UN Security Council debate on a US call for permanently reducing the military risk to Kuwait on the Iraqi border.

The mission by Kozyrev, authorized by President Boris Yeltsin and coming a day after two other

Russian envoys arrived, reflects Moscow's differences over sanctions and increasing unease over the US military buildup following Iraq's concentration of troops near Kuwait last week.

The US said it had deployed thousands of troops along with planes and ships to the region to deter Iraq from a repeat of its 1990 invasion of Kuwait, which Iraq has called its 19th province and still does not officially recognize.

"I'll tell you straight, our positions do not coincide on everything," Kozyrev was quoted by the Russian news agency as saying before leaving Moscow for the highest-level visit to its former ally since the Gulf War, in which US-led allies forced Iraqi troops out of the oil-rich emirate.

Kozyrev said Moscow and Washington agreed on the need to prevent fighting but they appeared to differ on the US demand for maintaining all economic sanctions imposed after Iraq's 1990 invasion.

Protestant 'loyalists' declare cease-fire

BELFAST (AP) - Pro-British Protestant paramilitaries announced a cease-fire yesterday, pledging "true remorse" for the murders of many Catholics, and matching the IRA's six-week-old truce.

The cease-fire paved the way for negotiations with supporters of the IRA and increased pressure on Britain to get constitutional talks started.

The Combined Loyalist Military Command declared it would "universally cease all operational hostilities" at midnight.

The combined command, embracing the outlawed Ulster Defense Force and Ulster Volunteer Force paramilitary groups, pledged to hold its fire as long as the IRA does.

The IRA called off its bomb and bullet campaign against British rule on Aug. 31.

"The sole responsibility for a return to war lies with them," the Protestant paramilitary statement said.

"Who could have foreseen this?" said a Ulster Volunteer Force commander, standing beside two convicted killers-turned-peacekeepers at the news conference where the cease-fire was declared.

The so-called "loyalists," who want to remain British, have been responsible for more than one-fourth of the nearly 3,200 killings in 25 years of sectarian violence.

The decision, made after consultations with jailed Protestant guerrillas, required loyalists to overcome suspicions that Britain had cut a secret deal with the IRA's political partners, Sinn Fein.

The paramilitary commanders were also persuaded by a belief that the IRA felt it could not win.

Britain, too, has promised that any constitutional change will be put to a referendum in Northern Ireland, which has an in-built pro-British majority.

William Flynn, chairman of Mutual of America Life Insurance Co. of New York, invited six members of UDA- and UVF-affiliated fringe parties to visit New York and Washington beginning Oct. 24.

"This loyalist cease-fire marks the end of the beginning," said Flynn, a supporter of increased American involvement in Northern Ireland.

In Dublin, Irish Premier Albert Reynolds said the IRA and the loyalist cease-fires were both genuine. He urged that he and British Prime Minister John Major should "lead now from here on in, and not lag," by offering talks to Sinn Fein and Protestant extremists.

But Major remained cautious, refusing to hint when talks might start. "We don't intend to be pushed," he told reporters.

Cult leader's body identified among dead

GENEVA (AP) - A doomsday cult leader sought by police in the apparent mass murder-suicide of 52 sect members perished with his followers, Swiss police said yesterday. Authorities also announced the first arrest in the case.

Lac Joux's body was among the 25 charred corpses found in a chalet in the Alpine village of Granges-sur-Salvan, police said. The discovery ended an international manhunt for the 46-year-old Belgian.

Joux's death means all the presumed ringleaders of the Order of the Solar Tradition have perished. In a new twist to the baffling case, Geneva police arrested the son of France's best known skier, Jean Vuarnet.

Patrick Vuarnet mailed suicide-type letters to Swiss and French media and French Justice Minister Jacques Pasqua on the day that the bodies were discovered. Swiss authorities said on condition of anonymity.

Vuarnet's lawyer, Dominique Warfuzel, said the cult's mastermind Joseph di Mambro had handed him the documents a few hours before the fires and told him to mail them the following day.

Warfuzel told France 2 television station that Vuarnet was un-

aware of the contents of the documents and surrendered to police voluntarily. He and his mother, Edith, were reportedly both members of the cult.

"I fear for my life," Vuarnet said in an interview with France's L'Express newspaper. "I'm sure it was only members of the inner circle in the chalets that burned. My mother and I don't know why we were summoned to be with them."

In addition to the 25 corpses in the chalets, 23 were found in another Swiss village, Cheiry, and five in an apartment owned by cult leaders near Montreal. All the buildings were set on fire in the night of Oct. 4-5 by a pre-timed, self-igniting device. Twenty five people were found in the chalets, 23 in a farmhouse in another Swiss village, Cheiry, and five in an apartment owned by cult leaders near Montreal Oct. 4 and 5.

Authorities had issued an international arrest warrant against Joux on suspicion of premeditated homicide and arson.

Three of the Canadian victims were stabbed to death - reportedly by a 35-year-old Swiss man called Joel Egger, whose body was subsequently found in the Granges-sur-Salvan chalet.

Cedras exiled to Panama, Aristide to return

PORT-AU-PRINCE (AP) - The man feared by thousands of Haitians walked across the darkened tarmac early yesterday holding his wife's hand and followed by his three sleepy children.

Ignoring pleas from journalists to turn around, deposed dictator Raoul Cedras headed straight for the US-chartered Boeing 757 and walked up the staircase without once glancing back.

An hour or so later, Cedras, along with his top general, began a life of exile in Panama. The White House showed it was glad Haiti's military leaders are gone by unfreezing their US assets.

The departure of Cedras and Philippe Biamby cleared Haiti's way to democracy and the long-awaited return of the nation's elected president, President Jean-Bertrand Aristide.

Aristide plans a triumphant return tomorrow, three years after he was ousted in a September 1991 coup that brought Cedras to power and crushing economic sanctions to the impoverished Caribbean nation.

Cedras, a participant in Aristide's bloody overthrow, was flown out of Haiti with the help of American soldiers he once pledged to battle to the death.

His departure - made in the

middle of the night to discourage jeering crowds - broke another of his vows: to remain in his homeland.

A convoy of US Humvees carried Cedras and his family from his hillside mansion to the airport at 1:45 a.m. yesterday.

Panama offered Cedras and Biamby asylum Wednesday night after requests by Washington and Aristide. It was not known how long any of them would remain.

Japanese wins Nobel Literature Prize

STOCKHOLM (Renter) - Kenzaburo Oe, who won the Nobel Literature Prize yesterday, is a radical humanist who fought to raise his brain-damaged son when doctors said it would be best to let him die, his translators said.

The 59-year-old Japanese writer has always had an acute sensitivity to everyday life and describes his own way of writing as grotesque realism.

Born in 1935, Oe lived through the horror of seeing atomic bombs destroy Nagasaki and Hiroshima and the humiliation of seeing his country surrender at the end of World War II and occupied by American troops.

He immersed himself in the left-wing intellectual movements of post-war Japan. He worked in the peace movement, joined the radical student movement of the 1950s and campaigned against the United States-Japan Security Treaty in the 1960s.

He is still a left-wing radical, but in a more conservative Japan which has seen the virtual demise of the radical movements of the past.

"He calls himself a radical humanist," said Yukiko Duke, a friend who along with her mother has translated Oe's books into Swedish.



Kenzaburo Oe: Describes his own way of writing as grotesque realism. (AP)

The experience that probably influenced Oe the most was the birth of his severely brain-damaged son in a country where handicapped people are still often kept out of public sight.

Oe's first son was born in 1963 with a growth on his head and removing the growth by surgery left him with severe brain damage.

"When his son was born, the doctors said let him die, he won't have a chance," said Duke. But Oe refused to let his son die.

His son Hikari, now 31, has trouble speaking and has autistic attacks but he also has a special talent for music and is now a well-known composer in Japan.

"He (Oe) is now at the stage in his life in which his son has been freed through music and he has become lighter and more imaginative in his writing," Duke said.

Her mother Eiko, who also helped to translate Oe's works into Swedish, said she has always been fond of Oe's works, which reflect changes in his own personal life.

"After he got married and had his first son who was brain damaged, his writing completely changed and he wrote a lot about death and rebirth," she said.

The Dukes described Oe as spiritual, sensitive, disciplined and intelligent. They said he was a bit shy and reserved but also had humor.

"Japanese authors are quite poor," Oe told Swedish news agency TT when he learned he had won the prize, he added: "Seven million crowns (\$950,000) should be enough to buy numerous books."

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Details on page 13

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MALIN

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Rabin's warning

PRIME Minister Yitzhak Rabin's declaration that Yasser Arafat must decide immediately between Hamas and peace is the toughest warning he has ever delivered since the negotiations with the PLO began. Conveyed through Secretary of State Warren Christopher, the message is in the nature of an ultimatum. It says that, unless Arafat declares war on Hamas and makes a serious effort to neutralize its military arm Izzadin Kassam, he will not be perceived as a man of peace. In practical terms, this means that Arafat can no longer coddle fanatic terrorists and expect Israel to reward him with broader authority, and ultimately independence, in the administered territories.

For Rabin this is a drastic departure from previous pronouncements. In the past he said that Israel would combat terrorism as if there were no peace process, and pursue peace as if there were no terrorism. The rationalization for such a course was that terrorism was perpetrated by "the enemies of peace," whose aim is to shut down the negotiations, and who must not be allowed to achieve this goal. Ergo, the peace process must not stop - no matter what terrorist atrocities are committed.

It is not quite clear why the kidnapping of Cpl. Nahshon Wachman and the threat to execute him has changed Rabin's mind. Clearly, had Hamas merely killed him on the road, where he was waiting to hitch a ride, his death would have made no greater impact on the peace process than the 70 Jewish deaths caused by Palestinian terrorists (many by Arafat's own Fatah) in the past year. It must be that the heart-rending drama of a young man kidnapped by known hostage-murderers creates the kind of outrage the killing of 70 Jews cannot produce.

Yet even now the government is saying - through one of its policy shapers, Environment Minister Yossi Sarid - that if the Palestinian security services deliver Wachman alive, admiration for Arafat in Israel will rise immeasurably and the peace process will enjoy a tremendous boost.

Hearing such assurances, one can understand Arafat's confusion. First he is told that no matter what Hamas does, the peace process will go on - hardly an incentive for risking his own popularity in the Gaza streets by confronting the Islamic

fundamentalists. Now he is told by one Israeli leader that if he is delivers Wachman he will become a folk hero, and by another that he must destroy Hamas or else.

Such mixed signals not only confuse others; they betray the intrinsic contradictions of the government's position. The government's expectation of civil war between the "good Palestinians" - the Arafat followers "who have chosen peace," as government spokesmen like to put it - and the Islamic militants "who oppose peace" is ludicrous.

Rabin's hope that the PLO, uninhibited by such democratic constraints as "human rights groups and Supreme Court decision," would fight Hamas to the death was simply a pipe dream. There may be some jockeying for power in the territories in which blood will be shed, but an all-out war against terrorism by the PLO leadership is a contradiction in terms.

It is time for the government to recognize reality. Israel's decision to negotiate with the PLO and its willingness to withdraw from the territories is attributed by the Palestinians to one thing only: the violence of the intifada. They are convinced that the same tactics will work now; that the fastest way to attain the complete evacuation of Judea, Samaria, and Gaza is to continue killing Israelis.

The trick is to kill just enough to demoralize the nation; just enough to create internal pressures for a quick withdrawal "to put an end to the killings." Anything more than that, anything the terrorists do which exceeds the tolerable quota of death, may be counterproductive for them. It may destroy the Israelis' faith in ever reaching a peaceful solution with their neighbors, and stop the withdrawal altogether.

The kidnapping has come close to being such an excess. The national rage and disappointment are reflected in Rabin's warning, and in the presence of more than 50,000 people at the Western Wall last night, in one of the most moving displays of national solidarity and concern. But to assume that Wachman's safe return will change Palestinian attitudes, or that the division of labor between Palestinian negotiators and terrorists will be rescinded, is to return to the distorted perception of the PLO - the very perception which has led to the current sorry situation.

Anti-kidnapping measures

IN the past 20 years, 17 hitchhiking Israeli soldiers have been killed by Arab terrorists. Compared with the soldiers who have lost their lives in traffic accidents, it is a relatively small number. But this is no comfort to the grieving parents, nor is it thinkable that soldiers do not feel safe accepting a ride in the very heart of Israel.

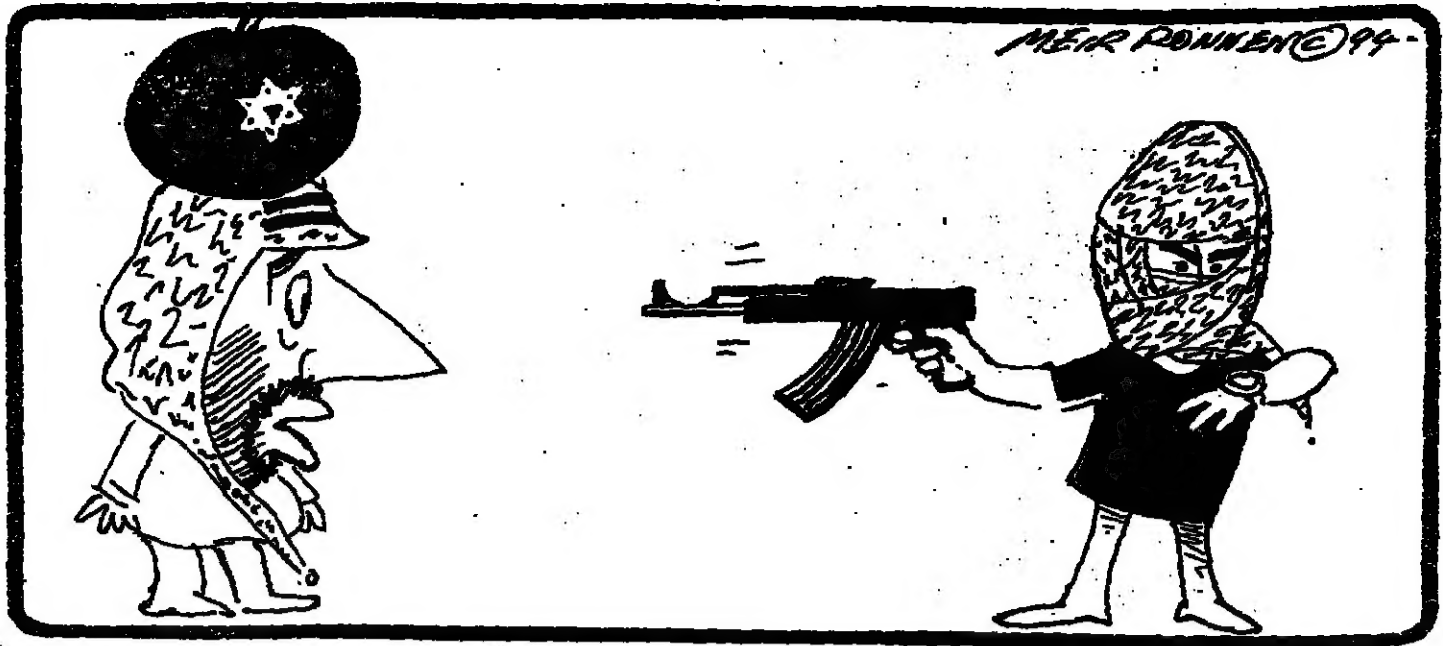
The simplest solution is also the least feasible. All soldiers could be provided with transportation by the army, to and from their bases. But the price of such an arrangement would be prohibitive, and the logistics cumbersome if not impossible. The army could also issue flat orders against hitchhiking rides, but the chances of their being obeyed are close to nil. Soldiers eager to get home for a short furlough or back to their bases on time will take any ride they can get.

It would be helpful if male soldiers in uniform enjoyed the same privileges female soldiers do: a free ride on all inter-urban buses. The Egged bus company receives enough in government subsidies to render objection to such a suggestion unacceptable. But buses, especially in remote

areas, do not run frequently enough to satisfy the soldiers' needs.

It would be helpful, too, if all soldiers followed the strict guidelines the army has issued on the subject. Being careful to ride only in the back of the car, accepting rides only from drivers who are alone, and waiting for rides only at designated pick-up stations would eliminate most of the risks. But a soldier stuck alone on the road is almost defenseless against three or four armed men who, by wearing kippot and driving in cars with Israeli license plates, arouse no suspicion as they approach their victim. Most of the victims of recent kidnappings have not entered the cars voluntarily.

Like all acts of terrorism, kidnappings cannot be stopped by defensive measures alone. Ultimately, only the army's ability to preemptively attack terrorist hideouts and to punish their sponsors can minimize, if not eliminate, the danger. That Hamas - which has been responsible for most of the kidnapping-murders and attempted kidnapping-murders in recent years - has a safe haven in Gaza and Jericho makes the task more difficult than ever.



Syria's 'Anschluss' of Lebanon

MOSHE ZAK

THE Golan isn't the only stumbling block to peace between Israel and Syria. US Secretary Warren Christopher, shuttling between Jerusalem and Damascus this week, is aware of another tough issue which could hold up a settlement: Lebanon.

President Assad wants two things - Israeli and UN acknowledgment of Syrian sovereignty over the Golan, and complete control of Lebanon. And there's a whole list of other thorny problems.

Syrian foreign minister Farouk Shara called the implementation of UN resolutions. He didn't specify, but clearly the resolutions had to do with returning Palestinian refugees to their homes, a subject which lies at the base of the Arab consciousness.

This is a hint that not even returning every last centimeter of the Golan to Syria guarantees a peace agreement, since Syria can always say: First of all, UN resolutions must be implemented!

The repeated allusion to UN resolutions points to yet another land mine on the way to a deal.

Syria's foreign minister has asked the UN General Assembly to force Israel to sign the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT). Here again, Syria is preparing an

escape clause. It can refuse to sign a peace treaty as long as Israel refuses to comply with UN resolutions on the NPT. Assad's calling his entry into negotiations a "strategic decision" could well be misleading. He hasn't relinquished his war option (if his demands aren't met), or changed his strategic goals.

Israeli and Syrian armies; it also enables the possibility of a pincer movement against the Galilee. Pincer from both north and east. Again, the spread of Syria's military forces may be positive in that it is preferable for a Syrian division to be deployed in Lebanon, busy policing a turbulent zone, than sta-

an opportunity for a *qui pro quo* with Syria: Lebanon in exchange for the Golan. But then premier Menachem Begin through the suggestion immoral. Now Assad may well get both Lebanon and the Golan.

And the Israeli street? Excitedly weighing the pros and cons of the Golan issue, it is ignoring the security danger posed by Assad's demands from the US on Lebanon.

Few people are familiar with this military assessment from General Earl Wheeler, former US chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, on the importance of Israel holding onto strategic areas in pursuit of peace:

Replying to a query from president Johnson on the frontiers necessary to Israeli security, Wheeler wrote to defense secretary Robert MacNamara on June 29, 1967:

"Israel must hold the commanding terrain east of the boundary of 4 June 1967 which overlooks the Galilee area. To provide a defense in-depth, Israel would need a strip about 15 miles wide extending from the border of Lebanon to the border of Jordan." These facts must be neither forgotten nor obliterated.

The writer, a veteran journalist, comments on current affairs.

In the talks with Assad, Lebanon is the other side of the coin. But it's being overshadowed by the Golan

HOW SHOULD Israel react to this demand for an "Anschluss" of Lebanon, the expression of a long-time Syrian dream?

On the one hand, complete Syrian control of Lebanon could be helpful in curbing Hizbullah terrorism against Israel's border. Damascus could use an iron fist in southern Lebanon, which a weak Lebanese government cannot.

On the other hand, Syrian hegemony in Lebanon not only lengthens the border between the

tioned on the Golan, facing the IDF.

But while, on the Golan, a wider buffer zone is envisaged between the two armies, in Lebanon the situation would be quite the reverse. Not only would the Israeli security zone be done away with; there would be no early warning mechanism and Syria would have an easy ride through Lebanese territory, on its way to the Israeli border.

Twelve years ago, Israel missed

Too many people in one tiny state

YOSEF GOELL

THE cabinet went into something of a panic over Ora Namir's statement about the problematic makeup of the recent aliya from the former Soviet Union, immediately reasserting the principle of unrestricted aliya.

It panicked partly because the minister of labor and social affairs was extremely judicious in her choice of words and very free with her "facts." Prime Minister Rabin and his (and Namir's) Labor party colleagues were probably also afraid that Namir might well have lost Labor the next election by alienating Soviet immigrants, who by now constitute well over 10 percent of the electorate.

It's hard to say whether these fears were justified. The Zionist Forum and entire Russian-language press were quick to jump on Namir and demand that Rabin sack her. There is reason to believe, however, that those organizations were using the opportunity to vent their spleen over the relatively low priority that the Rabin government has accorded to the problems of immigrant absorption.

Namir has stuck by her guns, although it is obvious that her claims simply don't add up. Aged and handicapped immigrants dumped on Israel by children who then migrate to Germany or the US plus single-parent families can not possibly constitute close to 100 percent of this year's aliya.

The prime minister restricted himself to giving Namir a slap on the wrist, saying she shouldn't have raised the problem so publicly. The rebuff from her cabinet

colleagues notwithstanding, Namir claims she has been swamped by expressions of public support.

Yet, although her figures were vastly exaggerated and her motives are possibly suspect, Namir has raised a real problem. And it will not disappear by a mere re-chewing of Zionist ideology.

THE PROBLEM isn't new. In the previous period of mass aliya, in the 1950s and '60s, the entire monied professional, business and so-

those times. Forty odd years ago, we numbered much less than a million Jews, and Ben Gurion and his policy of unrestricted aliya were responsible for one of the miracles of Zionist realization: the growth of Israel's Jewish population seven-fold since independence.

But we will soon constitute half of world Jewry. In the light of that fact, and of the proven viability of the Jewish state in the eyes of our Arab enemies, there is room, 50

Namir's figures were way off. But we should rethink unrestricted immigration

cial elites of Moroccan Jewry chose to migrate to France, sending their poverty-stricken and often handicapped brethren to Israel. The results of that brutal selection plague Israel to this day.

Since the 1960s, many of those Moroccan Jewish immigrants to France have had the gall to charge Israel with discriminating against Moroccan immigrants because they have been so much less successful than those who went to France.

At the time, prime minister David Ben-Gurion, strong-willed and visionary, rejected vociferous demands that Israel be selective about who should be permitted to come to an infinitely poorer Israel. He was absolutely right for

years after independence, to do some rethinking about the principle of unrestricted aliya.

It is a holy tenet of Zionist ideology that one of the reasons d'etre of the Jewish state is providing a haven for Jews in need. That should not be tampered with. But the definition of what constitutes "need" merits reexamination. So does the deeply ingrained habit of moving heaven and earth to persuade reluctant Jews to come on aliya.

All the 13 million Jews in the world will never make aliya, despite half-hearted Israeli exhortations. We should fervently wish that this continue to be the case.

I would go further: aliya, in the future, should become very selec-

five, except in situations where Jewish communities are confronted with palpable threats to their existence. And recent reports that the government and the Joint Distribution Committee are considering setting up help and welfare services for destitute and aged Jews in the former Soviet Union is an example of a step in the right direction.

Israel has become a very crowded country. To be sure, Holland and Japan are more crowded; but we are noisy, abrasive Jews aren't Dutch or Japanese. We haven't even begun to learn how to manage human and societal friction under conditions of population crowding.

Beyond a certain point, which may well be reached in the next decade or two, life here will become worse and worse, perhaps even intolerable to many. And many Israelis might be driven to leave for elsewhere, pushed out by the crowding of additional millions of people into this tiny country.

As opposed to early and naive Zionist ideology, it might be better for the Jewish people to remain an interesting, cosmopolitan and international people, rather than one putting all its eggs in one Middle-Eastern basket.

I am certainly not advocating that we return to being "wandering Jews," a people without a sovereign homeland. Rather, Israel ought to be a strong and vibrant national center, radiating out to a number of viable diasporas.

The writer comments on political and public affairs.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

SELECTIVE ALIYA

Sir, - I can only congratulate Ora Namir that she "dared" to say aloud what many people are thinking, and what is confirmed by day-to-day reality.

The aliya from the CIS is not as successful as official government bodies try to make the public believe. We see a rise in alcoholism, prostitution, drug-related offences and other petty crimes, as well as a negative attitude towards the state and what it stands for. This is in stark contrast to the dignity of the Ethiopian immigrants, who arrived in Israel with deep faith, willing to become a part of our society and land, and who are being neglected by government au-

thorities and discriminated against by numerous CIS immigrants. The government seems to repeat the mistakes of the fifties when immigrants from non-European countries were virtually dumped in the middle of nowhere. Being a Zionist, I firmly believe in the ingathering of exiles and deplore the fact that the majority of our people chooses to live anywhere but in Israel. At the same time, I wish to support the view that aliya should be selective so as to keep socio-economic problems at a minimum and maintain a more or less stable society.

MIRYAM NAFTALI

Jerusalem.

DISGRACEFUL BEHAVIOR

Sir, - How could the nursing mother of a two-month-old baby be taken into police custody so precipitously? Anat Cohen was brutally taken off the streets by eight policemen. Whatever can be said about any action of Anat Cohen which took place right after Yom Kippur can never be justified by the action taken on Thursday, October 6.

I am ashamed of the Minister of Police, Moshe Shahal, and the entire Police Ministry who have lost human values. Is this what has happened to our Jewish State? The whole country should be protesting against this act of police brutality.

TOBY WILIG

Jerusalem.

US VOTER REGISTRATION

Sir, - As Chairman of Republicans Abroad in Israel, I want to inform American citizens throughout Israel that our Voter Registration Committee is ready to assist any American citizen (not only declared Republicans) to register to vote in the upcoming 1994 Congressional elections. The deadline for registration is the end of this month, so we have to move fast.

Anyone in need of assistance may leave a message at 02-321088 and we will help make sure their right is exercised.

ELIYAHU EDWARD WEINSTEIN,

Country Chairman, Republicans Abroad in Israel

Jerusalem.

WHAT ABOUT THE OTHER?

Sir, - I am a Palestinian currently living in Jerusalem. I was born and raised in the United States where I recently finished a Bachelor in Business Administration degree and returned to Jerusalem in January. I often find myself going to West Jerusalem and in particular the Ben-Yehuda area.

I condemn the attack of Sunday night as do all those whom I have spoken to. I am concerned by the fact that, although your paper stated that two innocent people were killed, it never bothered to mention the fact that the other innocent victim was Ziad Mohamed Al-Mugrabi, an Arab from East Jerusalem. My question is: Had that been me who was killed, would I also be conveniently forgotten to let your readers realize that not all Arabs are cold-blooded killers?

DANIEL G. KUTTAB

Jerusalem.

Following is the report of the deaths, as printed in *The Jerusalem Post* of October 11: "Fatally wounded were Ma'ayan Levy 19, an off-duty soldier from Moshav Beit Zayit, and Samir Mugrabi, 35, from Kafr Akab, in north Jerusalem. Levy was with a friend and Mugrabi was with his wife, who was lightly wounded in the leg. - Ed.J.P."

NO DRIVER'S license? No problem for 73-year-old Alvin Straight. Straight completed a 385 kilometer trek on a tractor-like lawn mower from his home in Iowa to visit his brother in Blue River, Wisconsin.

Straight can't see well enough to get a driver's license, but he doesn't want to let someone else drive. When he learned that his 80-year-old brother, Henry, suffered a stroke, he knew he had to visit. He bought the lawn mower, got a 3-meter trailer to haul gasoline, clothes, food and camping equipment and took off.

On good days, he averaged eight kilometers per hour. But there were some pretty bad days too. When he was just 33 km away from home, everything blew on his mower. He spent \$250 replacing points, condenser, plugs, generator and starter. His limited budget was taxed and he had to camp along the highway.

Was he worried about his safety?

"What would I be scared of?"

Hell, I went through combat in World War II. They ain't going to show me a damn thing I ain't seen before."

Straight wasn't even at the halfway point when he ran out of money. He had to camp out until his next government check arrived.

Finally, Straight made it to within three km of his brother's house 41 days later when his mower broke down again. A farmer helped him push it the rest of the way.

Henry didn't know his brother was coming. "All I could do was unhitch his mower," he said. "It ain't hard to unhitch."

Straight expected to head home about a month later - on his mower, of course.

A LOS ANGELES rare-book dealer sold copies of a horror novel that were impregnated with the odor of burnt human flesh. He easily found takers for the two copies - at \$600 a pop.

In its unperfected form, the book - a novel called *Drawing Blood* by horror writer Poppy Z. Brito - sold for \$50 in a limited

edition. It's quite a markup to \$600, but as Brito notes, "there's no precedent for this sort of thing."

As bookseller Barry Levin's catalogue relates, late last year a man set himself on fire with a Molotov cocktail in front of the Westwood Mall Services Company in Los Angeles. He later died in hospital; the company was badly damaged by the fire. One of the few items to survive the conflagration intact was a piece of mail waiting for Levin: three copies of *Drawing Blood*. They were unopened, but they smelled very, very bad.

Levin described the aroma: "Cannibals used to call their delicacy 'long pig.' And it does have that sickeningly sweet porklike aroma."

Levin is no stranger to what he calls "unique items." A couple of years ago, there was a copy of *The Satanic Verses*, signed by Salman Rushdie, that had bound into it the signature of the Ayatollah Khomeini.

Levin sold a copy of Salvador Dali's edition of *Alice in Wonderland* that a collector had asked Dali to put his "mark" on. Dali

being Dali, he made his mark by urinating on it.

Levin is planning to give the profits from the sale of *Drawing Blood* to the family that owned the mall shop. The suicidal bomber "almost put them out of business," he says. "I'm trying to have some good come out of this."

ANYWHERE BUT here. That was the sentiment among the more than 1,500 people who lined up hoping to leave Indianapolis one recent weekend aboard one of Northwest Airlines' "Mystery Fares."

"I don't really care where I go, just need a break," said Diana Whitsett of Indianapolis.

The round-trip tickets for one-day trips to various cities went on sale for \$59 each or \$99 per couple. The catch is that travelers don't learn which of 15 cities they will be visiting until they arrive at Indianapolis' airport.

The mystery destinations include Detroit, Minneapolis, Memphis, New Orleans, Philadelphia and Buffalo, some of which can make a person happy to get back to Indianapolis.

Rabin - rewards and agonies

ABBA EBAN

THERE has been no dearth of Israeli peace plans since 1967. Most of them have been more coherent and professionally formulated than the somewhat muddled Oslo text.

But Oslo became the turning point despite its obscurities, because no other peace process was sponsored by an Israeli prime minister with the dogged will and the domestic prestige necessary to carry the vision of regional peace into fulfillment.

Yitzhak Rabin has won a dozen Knesset votes of confidence for the peace process. It is doubtful that any other Israeli political leader could have achieved this result. All his predecessors had their days in the sun, but only Rabin could carry his constituency. It would, therefore, have been wildly irrational for anybody else to earn whatever international applause could be garnered from this unprecedented enterprise.

Rabin's reward is the indisputable fact that Israel is in serious discourse, for the first time, with a dozen Arab nations. The fact that he is not personally attuned to the visionary rhetoric of regional cooperation serves only to highlight his achievement.

There is more paradox than logic in history, and the eccentric truth is that so many of Rabin's difficulties leap at his throat from devoted supporters of the peace

process. The Diaspora resounds with the echoes of Yossi Beilin's declaration about Israel not needing American Jews now that we are rich enough to go it alone.

Everything in this doctrine is wrong. The idea that the admittedly awkward, lumbering procedures of Diaspora Jews in their communion with Israel can be cured by institutional changes is superficial. Abolish whatever exists, omit the two salient words "Jewish" and "Zionist" from a new framework,

predominantly American. It is therefore a constant juggling act designed to express the divergent philosophies evoked by the two anthems with which American Jews commence their rituals.

Since Israeli Jews do not share these dilemmas, they are the least qualified to reconcile them, and Israeli proposals, tailor-made for Israeli purposes, miss every conceivable target. The only proposals worth attention are those that American Jews may one day for-

The same applies with even greater force to Ora Namir's "helpful" observations about Russian Jews. It is distressing to note that yet another community is unloading its "problems" on Israel and sending its elites to the Diaspora. But this is precisely what happened with the Jews of North Africa and Iran. If the only remedy is to strip the drama of aliya of its compassionate and redemptive spirit, the solution becomes worse than the problem.

Another example of disarray is reflected in Rabbi Alexander Shindler's reported statement that the outrageous pampering of Shas is causing a diminution of American Jewish support for the peace process.

My own contact with American Jewish audiences leads me to believe that they are exalted by the peace process and only mildly and marginally aware of our unsavory coalition manipulations. The two phenomena are totally different in their historic contexts.

I happen to share most of Shindler's characteristically lucid views, but the two situations are profoundly discordant. Regional peace is a crucial national and Jewish interest to which peripheral coalition quibbling should not be related or compared.

The writer is a former foreign minister.

There is discourse with a dozen Arab nations. But some supporters of the process are giving the PM headaches

give it a name that sounds like a hospital or temple in Long Island, and go on your way rejoicing?

THE CENTRAL truth is that initiatives for reform in this field should come more from American Jews than from Israel. American Jewish institutions are laden with the inherent complexities of Diaspora life.

The sin is to balance a genuine Zionist enthusiasm with the understanding that the overriding reality in American Jewish life is

manifest themselves as a response to their own duality.

In the absence of any such initiative, patronizing declarations by Israelis create abrasiveness without any compensating utility. Meanwhile, we are left with the strange truth that the present structures, however lopsided, clumsy and illogical, add up to a success story. The relevant reflection is expressed in an American slogan: "If something works, however imperfectly, don't try to fix it before you know how."

The kind of people we ought to be

SHULAMIT ALONI

PEOPLE come up with a great deal of high-faluting and smug talk about "Jewish ethics," which is something we take pride in. But it may be queried whether people know the meaning of the phrase.

Do "Jewish ethics" actually exist, or does the term simply mean that Jews are moral people, because of their education, their culture and their Torah?

For many years, Chapter I of the Book of Isaiah was kept under wraps in Israel. The book of Isaiah was the main thing. It was all conquest and settlements.

And yet it is Isaiah, and not the stories of Joshua, which turn the Bible into the Book of Books. Victorious conquerors appear at the dawn of all peoples' cultures. But in our case, the key sentence is "Justice shall redeem Zion, and righteousness her repentant people." (Isaiah 1:27)

Since the Exodus from Egypt, all Jews see themselves as having personally gone, not from Egypt, but from "heretics" like myself, see themselves as having been at Mount Sinai (where women were present as well as men - rabbis of the State of Israel, please note).

Thus we commemorate and absorb the value of freedom. But in order to be a people,

freedom isn't enough. No free society can exist without laws, statutes and ordinances.

Now that peace is evolving between Israel and its neighbors and stability is at hand, what people like to call "Jewish ethics" will also be put to the test. This test lies in our laws and our attitude to minorities, to those who are different from us.

Will we continue having ethnic, religious segregation? Will we distinguish between a father and his sons in terms of status and rights, applying the well-known "Who is a Jew?" test?

Or will we, out of a sense of freedom, sovereignty and self-confidence, live up to the test in the Book of Numbers: "...there shall be one statute both for you, and for the stranger that sojourneth with you, a statute for ever..." (Numbers 15:15-16)

There is no implication whatsoever here of any kind of conversion, whether halachic or non-halachic. Here, the "stranger" is the person who is not Jewish - a foreigner.

THE UPSHOT of years of war and occupation, together with a

growing feeling of power combined with the self-righteousness of the perennial victim, is that many Jewish values have been distorted. A large number of violent groups boasting of Jewish "chosenness," have established power bases, which drive people away from Judaism and its values.

The religious establishment has accrued dominant power and assets, and has fostered ignorance, ritual and superstition. As its arbitrariness and authority have grown, it has alienated ordinary Israelis not only from the synagogue, but also from any knowledge of Judaism and its universal ethical heritage.

Massive fervor on the part of religious, chauvinistic, gun-toting Jews, under IDF protection and in the name of the Jewish people's rights and its heritage, is ousting those who have inhabited this land for generations.

None of this has helped foster "the Jewish ethic" or "Jewish identity" among liberal-minded individuals who believe in human rights for all.

We must renew the covenant between us and our roots, between us and the Bible, between us and

the Sages of the Mishna and the Talmud. They knew how to question and interpret, how to allow for doubt and hesitation, how to re-open discussion.

Diaspora Jewry must be closely involved in a Jewish cultural, social and ethical revival, for its sake, and ours.

So I call on it not to send us money, but to raise funds and send its young people to Israel, to study our language, our regenerating culture, and insist that we be the people we ought to be.

In a world where Jews do not live from one pogrom to the next, where the State of Israel doesn't live from one war to the next, in a world free of the terror that one's very existence could be wiped out, we are duty-bound to develop a new dialogue about our identity.

Such a dialogue will enrich our intellectual and spiritual experience, satisfying the longing of each one of us to be part of a society whose culture fosters what is good, right and just, together with beauty, tolerance and pluralism.

The writer is minister of communications and science and technology. This article is adapted from an address yesterday, when she received an honorary doctorate from Hebrew Union College.



Wombs and weapons

NETTY GROSS

LAST Thursday, by chance, I happened to be in the emergency room at Shaare Zedek, which was that evening's duty hospital for orthopedic emergencies in Jerusalem.

Along with the routine cast of characters doing the emergency room circuit - kids clutching what could be fractured bones; the Spanish tourist with a twisted ankle; a motorcyclist with a cracked rib - was, of course, the injured settler family.

A contingent of at least five police officers of various ranks, including a powerfully built female cop, hovered about this group, the most impaired member of which appeared to be a fragile-looking mother, inching slowly across the emergency room, she seemed dazed, ashen and in pain.

What a horrendous way to live, I thought to myself. Another woman, perhaps a settler friend, held the infant.

Only in Friday's newspaper, when I recognized the woman's face, did I realize that it was Anat Cohen, aged 33. Cohen had been apprehended earlier that day in Hebron, after resisting arrest for charges stemming from an earlier incident.

Her unwillingness to go to the station house, according to press accounts, was due to her insistence upon taking her two-month-old infant with her to nurse.

Settlers charged that Cohen had been brutalized by the police. A police spokesman termed the force used against Cohen "reasonable." Later, Shaare Zedek stated that Cohen was brought to the emergency room suffering from a gynecological problem.

Why she was brought to Shaare Zedek, that evening's orthopedic duty hospital in the capital, isn't clear.

The woman I saw in the emergency room may indeed have had gynecological problems; but she had other problems, too. Her face seemed puffy; she spoke haltingly, and she could barely walk. I don't know what sort of force was used

against this mother of eight for the crime of wanting to nurse her baby. But whatever it was, it didn't seem "reasonable."

Surely this time around, in this nascent Jewish intifada, nobody of rank would be caught issuing an order to "break her bones." But it was clear from the woman's comportment in the orthopedic unit and the police retinue, which accompanied her to the emergency room that the state was heavily invested in going after this woman.

In retrospect, it wasn't a pretty picture: a young, physically depleted and badly bruised Jewish mother with a two-month-old in tow, surrounded by a lot of blue shirts. Ours.

Brute force will never get women like Anat Cohen to pack up and leave Hebron

JEWISH FEMALE militancy has different characteristics from male.

First of all, the presence of children in the struggle is an inseparable part of the picture. Remember settler photos from the Eighties - a Maclaren stroller always perched on a rocky promontory, an emerging settlement?

Moreover, the reason for bringing so many children into the world is alone often a political, as well as religious, statement. Jewish women settlers active in the anti-government movement are using their wombs as weapons.

How many children did Miriam Lapid have? Fourteen?

Second, women settlers live biblically and view their struggle with a peculiar obstetrical femininity. The conflict between Jews and Arabs is, by their account, a virtual 20th-century standoff between Sarah, the matriarch, and Hagar, her interloping maid, who gave birth

to Abraham's other son, Ishmael. That the backdrop for this argument is the ancient city of Hebron adds fuel to their ethnocentric passions.

Others get their ideas of empowerment from another generation of biblical Jewish women, those who showed their mettle during Egyptian bondage and were later credited as heroines for giving birth to many children, despite Pharaoh's evil decrees. Others have told me: the appeal to militancy has its roots in the Holocaust and the nightmarish photos of forsaken Jewish women being shot and gassed, along with their children.

Whatever the reasons, it's clear from the language of dissent these women use that a culture of martyrdom and rage is deeply, dangerously, embedded in their lives. Add to this witch's brew of ill will a feeling of desperation at the public's coolness to their cause, the nonchalance in the face of their plight. They still shoot at us on our way to Jerusalem, don't they?

Government officials who are hoping that a consistent show of force against militants like Anat Cohen will get them to pack up and leave their hard lives and homes for the safety of Jerusalem's Har Nof and Bnei Brak are taking a gamble.

For a nation like Israel, which has envoys pushing irrigation equipment in Shanghai, bubonic plague vaccines in India and Elbit shares on Wall Street, isn't there a single person willing to go to Hebron and negotiate a deal with these women?

One really has to wonder. For a people which produced Freud and Adler, why does it have to be this way: wombs against truncheons? A sluggish-out Anat Cohen in an emergency room with a veritable Israeli SWAT team?

What a horrendous way to live. For all of us.

The writer is a Jerusalem-based journalist.

When my people and my state are at peace

WALID SADEK

I am proud to be an Arab. Arab culture came to me with my mother's milk, and my identification with Arab nationalism is incontrovertible.

By the same token, I am a citizen of the State of Israel, in such a way that my Arab nationality and my citizenship complement each other and live in fruitful harmony.

I was born into the British Mandate. As a child, I saw both sides of history: the declaration of the Jewish State and the tragedy of my people. I was exposed to a bitter reality: my people fighting my state. Peace, toward which we are striving, may resolve the contradictory life I live: my people will live in peace with my state.

In an era of political changes and fateful decisions for Israel, there are voices which question the government's mandate to reach peace. They are accompanied by arguments such as: "the elected government has no Jewish parliamentary majority." Regrettably, I feel that the criteria of basic humanity and justice are not being exercised by those who try to impose their will on the majority.

In the dispute over the future of the Golan, strong feelings have been aroused and myths and prejudices nurtured. In the heat of argument, some have let the genie of

racism out of the bottle.

Masking themselves with strange and various excuses, they suggest that anyone who hasn't served in the army shouldn't participate in the referendum. They have chosen a distorted, racist rationale, in a desperate attempt to deprive Israeli Arabs, citizens of the state, of their right to be full-fledged partners in decisions of the state.

I am a proud Arab. I want to be a proud Israeli, in a country where all are equal

According to these people, the parliamentary majority must rely strictly on Jews. Those who try to impose "constraints" on peace, who are afraid of peace, hide behind walls of hostility, creating an unholy mixture of racist feelings and anti-democratic precepts.

ISRAELI ARABS are citizens of the state by right, not charity. It is a right based on moral and democratic criteria.

On peace, there is an overlapping of interests between Jews and Arabs. Peace does not distinguish between blood and blood. Peace

has universal significance.

This is a historic, extraordinary time. There is a real possibility for peace with the Palestinians and with the Jordanians, and a realistic opportunity for peace with Syria. Perhaps it will be cold; but a cold peace is preferable to a destructive war.

In political terms, peace with Syria would have a direct influence on the whole peace process. Peace

with our northern neighbors would reinforce relations between Israel and the Palestinians, bringing the end of the war of attrition in southern Lebanon, the halting of the arms race in the region and a new opening for broadening relations with many states in the world.

We mustn't let those who fear peace and giving up the dream of Greater Israel allow peace to slip through our fingers. If we do, we shall only be paving the way to war, a war which will have no victors or vanquished; for we shall all be defeated.

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FRIDAY, OCTOBER 14, 1994

Fraud squad probes Clal, Ararat officials

Executives suspected of illegal share transfer

THE National Fraud Squad has opened a criminal investigation against senior officials in Clal Insurance Company and Ararat Insurance Company.

The police suspect the officials illegally moved a portfolio of NIS 5.9m. in shares from an Ararat account to the investment portfolio of life insurance policy holders, who also have a share in the company's profits.

A nostro account is a firm's own account for security transactions, rather than an account for clients' investments.

The police suspect the shares were transferred to reduce Ararat's losses by rolling them over to the account of policy holders with a share in the company's profits.

The police suspect the portfolio was transferred at the start of the year, in the midst of the crisis

GALIT LIPKIS BECK

on the stock exchange.

During the last few weeks the police have questioned under caution a number of senior Clal and Ararat officials, including Yehuda Greenberg, Ararat's chairman and managing director of Clal Insurance Holdings and Avi Balaban, Ararat's managing director.

Sources said the police suspect the decision to move the shares was made by the investment committee, which Greenberg heads.

Asked to comment Greenberg said, "I was asked to testify and did as requested."

Balaban could not be reached for comment.

The police started investigating the episode several weeks ago based on the testimony of

Rafi Magid, an investment manager fired from Ararat in April.

Ararat fired Magid on suspicions that he was involved in stock manipulation and submitted a complaint to the police against him.

In his testimony, Magid claimed he received clear instructions, in writing, from Ararat's management to transfer NIS 10m. from the company's account to the portfolio of the insurance policy holders.

Shortly before the episode was revealed, Ararat transferred the package of shares back to its account.

Ararat has denied the accusations made against it.

Ararat has filed a NIS 1m. suit against Magid to the Tel Aviv Magistrates Court.

Privatization picks up steam

COMMENT

NEIL COHEN

ALMOST imperceptibly, the privatization process is picking up. Bids are in for United Mizrahi Bank; the Israel Chemicals tender was published this week, and the tender for Shekem closes on Monday. Even El Al may yet go, although most observers will only believe it when they actually see it happening.

After the fiasco of the Shikun Uftuah offering and the secondary offerings for the two biggest banks, this is some relief.

Indeed, Shekem and ICL are among the lumbering, slumbering giants of Israeli industry and commerce. Shekem has been a consistent money-loser. Many of its stores are wrongly-sized and poorly located, the chain lacks an attractive image, and its merchandising is weak. It has lagged many

of the advances made by Israeli retailing in the last few years.

Israel Chemicals has, to its credit, remained profitable through the downsizing in the bulk chemicals industry. However, it remains very much a government company. It is also a complicated sprawl of companies, where shareholder value and industrial efficiency might well be maximized by rationalizing the structure. ICL has a meaty asset base, and it is hard to escape the sense that management does not make these assets sweat.

No one wants to see the state give assets away, but after overpricing ICL's initial public offering it should prefer principle to price. Both Shekem and ICL need shaking up, and doing so will increase the price the state gets for shares it sells next time around.

Harish seeks more credit for CIS trade

JOSE ROSENFELD

credit would exceed IFTRIC's risk criteria, but justified the move on grounds it would serve national and economic interests.

Since additional credit guarantees cannot be justified based purely on economic considerations, Harish is demanding the government make a political decision to take the added risk - deriving from the political and economic instability of the new CIS regimes - to develop a market where Israel has a decided competitive advantage.

According to Industry and Trade Ministry Director of Foreign Trade Zohar Peri, there are

guarantee requests for projects and trade with the republics reaching hundreds of millions of dollars.

Harish said there is a danger to Israel if it stops its activity in markets where it is in demand, due to the intensive efforts by other Western countries to establish a foothold there.

"The failure to be present there today will come at particularly heavy economic costs to a country like Israel, whose economy depends on trade and international economic cooperation," said Harish.

Treasury officials said that IFTRIC's \$400 million allotment for the republics has not even been used up. They said Harish's initiative derives from pressure on the minister exerted by businessmen whose projects failed to meet IFTRIC's credit guarantee criteria.

"People are willing to invest in those countries as long as someone else [the government] takes the risk," an official said.

IFTRIC credit guarantee criteria aim to insure that the conditions exist for a country to meet its payments.

Ruble bounces back, up 24.8% versus dollar

MOSCOW (Reuters) - The ruble bounced back by an astonishing 24.8 percent against the dollar under the guiding hand of the central bank yesterday, as the Russian parliament debated the fate of bank governor Viktor Geraschenko.

Finance Minister Sergei Dubinin, sacked by an angry President Boris Yeltsin after Tuesday's 21.5% crash in the national currency, was replaced by his first deputy, Andrei Vavilov, 33, who comes from the same pro-market camp as Dubinin.

Foreign exchange dealers applauded behind the ornate walls of the Stalin-era Moscow Interbank Currency Exchange (MICEX) as the ruble shot up to 2,994 to the dollar from Wednesday's 3,736 and Tuesday's all-time low of 3,926.

But bankers said the ruble was now too high and agreed that a realistic level would be between 3,100 and 3,300.

"The authorities always manage to push too hard," said one dealer.

"This time by both raising the ruble rate and by sacking bosses. This will not do any good."

Dmitry Tulin, deputy chairman of the central bank and Russia's new representative with the International Monetary Fund, said the ruble's roller-coaster ride on the foreign exchange market was likely to continue.

"In the immediate future the ruble will continue its pendulum-like fluctuations on the currency market," he said, told Reuters. "It is a part of a transitional economy."

Meanwhile his boss Geraschenko, fighting for his job, said he saw no reason why he should be fired over Tuesday's debacle. "I still can't understand the reasons behind the ruble's crash on Tuesday, but I understand why it went up on Thursday," he told the State Duma's Budget Committee, which is debating a request from Yeltsin for Geraschenko's dismissal.

Deputies said a decision was unlikely before next week.

US producer prices drop 0.5% in September

WASHINGTON (Reuters) - Wholesale prices in September posted the biggest monthly drop in more than a year, the US Labor Department said yesterday, as energy prices plummeted and food prices edged lower.

The unexpected 0.5 percent decline in the Producer Price Index followed a surprisingly large 0.6% surge in August. Gasoline and heating oil prices took their sharpest drops in nine months, while coffee prices plunged.

Even without the impact of food and energy, the so-called "core" component of the PPI advanced only 0.1% in September after rising 0.4% in August. Economists had expected the overall index, which measures the prices producers charge for finished goods, to rise 0.1% in September. The core

rate was forecast to climb 0.4%.

The overall decline in the index was the biggest since wholesale prices fell 0.8% in August 1993, the department said.

Equity markets in Europe and the US surged on the news and the inflation-sensitive 30-year US Treasury bond jumped more than a point with its yield slipping to 7.82% from 7.9% late Wednesday.

Traders had awaited the report anxiously amid concern that it might provide enough evidence for the inflation-wary Federal Reserve to push up interest rates yet again.

The central bank has already raised short-term rates five times this year in an attempt to slow the economy to a less inflationary pace.

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WORLD MARKET REPORTS

Calm appears to have returned to world markets this week, with recoveries for London up from below \$900 to near \$1000, Tokyo to back above 20,000 and Wall Street 50 points ahead. There is still much uncertainty and our clients have been exercising caution with regard to their stock selections. Cable & Wireless, due to their deal in mainland China, BTR on continued recovery and BP, which has underperformed for some time, are some of this week's buys.

• In Europe, Germany was firm ahead of this weekend's General Elections with a 7% rally in the DAX. Our German agents recommend the following to us as buys: Siemens, AEG, Hoechst as front liners, and Babcock, Buderus and Vieg as second liners. The Swiss market was down - Ciba-Geigy being a big faller. Our Norwegian friends are bidding aggressively for Bergesen 'A' and Kvaerner 'B'.

• In the Asia-Pacific Region, Hong Kong was dominated by the H.K. Telecom deal with the Peoples Republic of China for the fibre optic link and mobile phone deal with Beijing. H.K. Telecom shares at HK\$ 16.30 look an exceptional buy. In Singapore, property shares continue to be sought, our past recommendation of DBS Bank at S\$ 4.80; and Straits Trading at S\$ 3.75 (a net discount of approx. 34% to NAV) are the pick of the crop.

• In South Africa the Financial Rand debate holds most attention. Our recommendation a fortnight ago would be 9% up today!!!

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South African Economic Statistics

	Prices 12.10.94	Prices 5.10.94	% Change
Exchange rates:			
Commercial Rand/\$	3.569	3.572	0.08%
Financial Rand/\$	4.075	4.220	3.44%
Commercial Rand/£	5.644	5.640	-0.08%
Interest rates:			
Money Market (BAAs)	12.00%	12.00%	0.00%
Eskom 2008	15.94%	15.93%	0.06%
Eskom 2020	16.91%	16.65%	1.56%
RSA 150	15.60%	15.55%	0.32%
Prices: Utl:			
UAL Max Income	10.53%	10.78%	-2.32%
OM Investors	40.6193	41.2528	-1.54%
Eskom 168	68.9892	69.05219	-0.09%
Guardbank	34.6782	35.3428	-1.88%
UAL Gilt	11.274	11.3037	-0.26%
UAL Max Income	10.0583	10.0483	0.10%
Shares: De Beers	98.00	102.00	-3.92%
Val Reef	435.00	472.00	-7.84%
Anglo American	227.00	238.00	-4.62%
Bankw	30.00	31.00	-3.23%
SA Brews	84.00	84.00	0.00%
Sacul	35.65	36.00	-0.97%
Tiger Oats	41.75	40.50	3.09%
Isacor	4.73	4.85	-2.47%
JSE Actuaries Overall:	5.525	5.654	-2.29%

COMMENTS: Expectations that the Financial Rand would be abolished persist but there appears to be a lot of uncertainty as to when this will occur. It is anticipated that the Commercial Rand will decline by between 10% and 15%. However, the stronger Financial Rand added to the stock exchange decline makes local shares expensive to offshore buyers. The discount to the Commercial Rand narrowed to 12.4%, due to the abolition of the Financial which boosted confidence in the unit.

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Amos rallies to beat Jonsson, faces Cherkasov in quarters

ORI LEWIS

AMOS Mansdorf, playing as if his life depended on it, advanced to the quarter-finals of the \$275,000 Joyce Eisenberg Israel Open yesterday, with an exciting 4-6, 6-4, 6-4 victory over Lars Jonsson of Sweden.

In other matches, top-seeded Wayne Ferreira of South Africa and Austrian Thomas Muster both gained semifinal berths. Ferreira stopped eighth-seed Jonas Bjorkman of Sweden 7-5, 6-4, and third-seed Muster notched a 6-4, 6-2 win over Brazilian Luiz Mattar.

Elsewhere, there was disappointment for young Israeli qualifier Yoni Erlich, who became the first player in the 14-year history of the tournament to lose 6-0, 6-0. He was unceremoniously disposed of by seventh-seed Frenchman Fabrice Santoro.

Mansdorf, 73 in the world, set out on a stroll in his match against the 98th-ranked Jonsson, and in no time at all, found himself in a 3-0 lead, as his opponent was having difficulty in finding the right length on his shots.

But then, with Jonsson belting the ball from the back of the court, Mansdorf suddenly found he could not keep up the pace. Jonsson, 24, was too powerful and too consistent. The Israeli, who will be 29 on Thursday, began to tire. He failed to get into position and fluffed many shots. Jonsson managed to pressure Mansdorf and broke him twice to take the set 6-4.

The second set began as the first had ended, with Jonsson dominating from the baseline, and Mansdorf unable to find the necessary form to counter.

It looked like Mansdorf would be exiting his home tournament for the last time very lately. But the 1,200 fans on hand suddenly had other ideas.

The crowd aged Mansdorf on and he broke back for 4-4 as he began to change his tactics and came to the net. The play worked well, and two superb chipped returns helped him to break in the 10th game and level the match at one set all.

Mansdorf continued to play a more diverse type of game in the third set, staying back, coming in and generally making life miserable for Jonsson. He tried to get a break as early as possible, but the



LIVES TO FIGHT ANOTHER DAY - A happy Amos Mansdorf rallied from one set down to stop Lars Jonsson. (Hanan Gutman)

solid match on his way to the semifinals, beating top doubles player Jonas Bjorkman in straight sets.

Muster, who will meet Ferreira in tomorrow's semifinals, also had an easy passage with a two-set victory over Mattar in an hour and 17 minutes.

In one other match yesterday, South African Marcos Ondruska beat Germany's Christian Sacum 7-5, 6-2.

Today's second quarter-final will match Santoro and Ondruska. Tomorrow's semifinals begin at 14:00 with the final on Sunday.

It went in the opposite direction. Mansdorf lost his serve to love and thus gave Jonsson a critical advantage.

But the crowd was more determined than ever and the stadium took on an air of Davis Cup urgency.

Mansdorf broke back in the next game and then again in the final game. He finished the match in an hour and 45 minutes. Mansdorf plays Russia's Andrei Cherkasov at 14:15 today. Cherkasov beat Italy's Gianluca Pozzi 7-5, 6-2.

Ferreira played a much more

Scandinavian power base shifts

LONDON (Reuters) - The balance of power in Scandinavian soccer shifted on Wednesday as European champions Denmark rediscovered its form while Sweden, third in the World Cup, crashed 4-2 away to Switzerland.

Norway, a force in the World Cup elimination series which then fell away in the US finals in mid-year, managed to maintain a recent unbeaten record against the Netherlands with a 1-1 home draw in a packed program of European championship qualifiers.

Denmark returned to form with a 3-1 home win over injury-depleted Belgium, two of its heroes of the 1992 final victory over Germany, Kim Vilfort and John Jensen, scoring crucial goals.

Sweden was 2-1 up in Bern until an own goal by Jesper Blomqvist put the Swiss back in the match at 2-2 in the 63rd minute.

Two goals in two minutes near the end from Ciri Sforza and Kubilay Turkayilmaz of Turkish champions Galatasaray gave Switzerland the points.

Turkey's Galatasaray teammates, strikers Saffet Sancakli and Hakan Sukur, netted two apiece as Turkey routed Iceland 5-0 in Istanbul to top Group 3. The Swiss and Swedes fill second and third places respectively.

Brian Roy, now a key member of high-flying Premier League side Nottingham Forest, scored as 1988 European champions the Netherlands drew 1-1 away to Norway in Oslo, where they lost a World Cup qualifier two years ago. Kjetil Rekdal equalized for the Norwegians.

The result left three sides on four points each at the top of Group 5. The Czech Republic, which missed a penalty in a 0-0 draw away to Malta, is ahead of the Dutch and Norwegians on goal difference.

Spain's 2-0 victory away to Macedonia gave them the sole lead of Group 2, two points ahead of Denmark.

Striker Julio Salinas, whose astonishing miss against Italy in Boston in July prevented Spain from reaching the World Cup semifinals, scored twice in the opening 25 minutes of his country's 2-0 win over Macedonia in Skopje.

Emil Kostadinov, who helped Bulgaria reach the semifinal against Italy, struck twice in a seven-minute spell in the second half of a 2-0 home win over Georgia.

But European soccer's elite did not have it all their own way with Moldova taking advantage of a Wales side without its main strike force to register a shock 3-2 home win in Chisinau.

The Moldovans lead Group 7 while the Welsh, without Manchester United's Ryan Giggs and



ICING THE CAKE - Denmark's Mark Strudal (2nd from right) scores the third goal in his team's 3-1 win over Belgium in a Group 2 European Championship qualification match on Wednesday. (AP)

Scotland's 5-1 rout of the Faroe Islands in Glasgow.

The Scots share the lead in Group 8 with Greece, whose recovery from a poor World Cup continued with a 4-0 home win over Finland that included two goals from young striker Nikos Machlas.

England, which will stage the 1996 finals, drew 1-1 with Romania in a friendly at Wembley, while Germany, yet to get off the mark in Group 7, played out a scoreless draw with Hungary in another friendly in Budapest.

The Romanians are top of Group 1 after holding France to a 0-0 draw in St Etienne on Saturday. Israel's 2-2 home draw with Slovakia and Poland's 1-0 home win over Azerbaijan left France in next to last place with two points from two goalless draws.

Mark Hughes, Ian Rush of Liverpool and Aston Villa's suspended striker Dean Saunders, dropped to third behind Bulgaria.

Strikers Niall Quinn and Tommy Coyne also both found the net twice as Jack Charlton's Ireland side crushed Liechtenstein 4-0 in Dublin to go top of Group 6 ahead of Northern Ireland, which won 2-1 in Austria.

Charlton was in Vienna to spy on Northern Ireland, which meets his side on November 16 in Belfast.

Celtic's Coyne hit his two goals in the opening four minutes. He said: "Obviously I'm disappointed I didn't make it a hat-trick in the end. I hit the post with two other headers and missed a couple of other chances."

Another Celtic player, midfielder John Collins, scored twice in

TA soccer derby takes center stage

ORI LEWIS

THE Tel Aviv derby is the highlight of this weekend's National League soccer action. A full schedule of matches to be played tomorrow afternoon will lead up to the 6.10 pm kickoff.

If the record books are any indication, Maccabi looks to be the odds-on favorite, at least not to lose. The last encounter between the two sides was in the State Cup final in June, when Maccabi beat Hapoel 2-0. Hapoel has not managed to win the most prestigious match in local soccer during the past four seasons.

But records are made to be broken, and even though it doesn't count for much at this stage of the season, Hapoel is ahead of Maccabi in the standings. This difference is insignificant, perhaps, especially as Maccabi has a game in hand.

Maccabi, which will host the match at the National Stadium, will almost certainly be without captain Nir Klinger who was stretched out the field during the Israeli-Slovakia match on Wednesday with an ankle injury.

But even without Klinger, Maccabi is un-

doubtedly the classier of the two sides. Hapoel sold off most of its star players during the off season and now rely heavily on the experience of interim captain midfielder Ya'acov Schwartz to keep the side together.

Maccabi's host of stars include goalkeeper Alexander Obarov, Gadi Brumer and Amir Shelah in defense, Avi Nimni in midfield and Nir Sivilia and Alon Mizrahi up front. It is a formidable lineup certain to cause any side serious problems.

In other matches, Maccabi Haifa, looking to regain some of last season's form, travels to Netanya for a difficult encounter against the local Maccabi side.

Haifa has been criticized for letting go of much of the talent that saw them to last season's National League title. Now they must face the rest of the season with the disappointing specter of Vasily Kardas who has come in place of star marksman Alon Mizrahi. Haifa

Revivo has still to prove his full potential, in place of departed Reuven Atar.

Hapoel Beit She'an, which has taken everybody by surprise, has the chance to prove that its unexpected success is not just a flash in the pan.

The Beit She'anis host faltering Bnei Jerusalem in Tiberias.

Betar gained its first win of the season in the last round of matches and now hopes to put its miserable start behind them. Beit She'an has nothing to lose and, while they will probably try to be enterprising up front, they know they can rely on goalkeeper Meir Cohen, who has proved himself a worthy man between the pipes.

This weekend's National League fixtures (all matches tomorrow): Bnei Tel Aviv v Hapoel Haifa, National Stadium, 16:10; Hapoel Beit She'an v Bnei Jerusalem, Tiberias, 16:10; Maccabi Herzliya v Ironi Rishon LeZion, Herzliya, 16:10; Maccabi Petah Tikva v Bnei Yehuda, Petah Tikva, 16:10; Maccabi Tel Aviv v Hapoel Tel Aviv, National Stadium, 18:10; Hapoel Beersheva v Zairiku Holon, Beersheva, 18:10; Ironi Ashdod v Hapoel Petah Tikva, Ashdod, 18:10; Maccabi Netanya v Maccabi Haifa, Netanya, 18:10.

Ailing Lendl plummets in ATP rankings

TOKYO (AP) - Ivan Lendl, once the world's No. 1 tennis player, will plummet below No. 50 in the rankings next week, the lowest he's been since turning pro in 1978.

By missing this week's Seiko Super tennis tournament, Lendl, ranked 29th, will lose the ranking points he gained last year by winning it.

The ailing 34-year-old, the winner at Seiko five times since 1983, withdrew with a back injury that

also made him miss the two previous tournaments.

Lendl, known for his extreme fitness regimen, has been struggling with injuries since the beginning of last year but has not made any definite statements about retirement.

The Czech-born American held the top spot for a record 270 weeks, falling from the top 10 last year for the first time since 1979. Only he has won singles tournaments every year since 1980.

Bucks' boss: no to \$100m for No. 1 pick

MILWAUKEE (AP) - The man with the checkbook says the Milwaukee Bucks aren't going to make No. 1 draft pick Glenn Robinson a \$100 million man.

Senator Herb Kohl, who owns the team, answered with a flat "No" when asked that question.

"I was thinking of saying to Mr. Robinson, 'I'll tell you what, I'll take your contract and you can have my franchise,'" Kohl said during a news conference.

Robinson, who led the US in scoring last season with Purdue University, has been a no-show at Bucks training camp, which began Friday. Contract negotiations remained at an impasse with no end in sight.

"The Bucks reportedly have offered a nine-year contract, worth about \$59m, a guaranteed figure the team contends generously exceeds this year's market value. The team would be willing to agree to a 10-year, \$70.5m deal, various sources have reported.

FIFA to weigh if Maradona violated ban

ZURICH (Reuters) - FIFA said it would consider whether Diego Maradona's continual involvement in soccer broke the terms of his ban from the sport for taking dope.

Maradona was banned for 15 months by FIFA after he tested positive for taking stimulants at this summer's World Cup finals in the US.

Maradona appeared in a low-key charity match in Argentina when 30,000 fans invaded the pitch and held up play for 40 minutes.

He has also taken up coaching duties with Argentine club Deportivo Mandiyu in apparent defiance of his ban.

The FIFA spokesman refused to comment on whether Maradona could appear in charity games but said his ban extended to all soccer activity, not just to playing.

FIFA's executive could extend Maradona's ban if it found he had broken the terms of his suspension or it could demand that the Argentine federation take action to stop his involvement in the sport.



Filippo Vismara, (right), driving a Korean Mitsu, celebrates a 2nd-place finish in the annual Pharaoh's Rally with a Giza pyramid in the background. The 3,300-km. race lasted 11 days. (AP)

Owners or players? The blame game is the only one in town

NEW YORK (Reuters) - With baseball canceled, hockey on hold and basketball in doubt, the blame game is almost the only one around. How fans tote up the final score in that game could determine the sport's very survival.

"I've done a lot of talk radio and there's enormous anger out there," said Pulitzer Prize winner David Halberstam, who has co-edited the US promoting his latest baseball best-seller, *October 1964*.

How will these angry fans react when - or if - the leagues now stymied by labor disputes ever start up again?

A Dohring Company poll immediately after the mid-September cancellation of the rest of the Major League Baseball season found that over half (53.9 percent) of avowed baseball fans said they would be less interested in baseball next season.

But fans have said this kind of thing before. The fury fades and they come back. In baseball, the general attendance trend has been up despite eight work stoppages in 23 years.

What may be more important is whether fans wind up blaming owners or players more, because if both sides stand firm, the next step would be for owners to hire replacement players.

A strike by National Football League players in 1983 collapsed in three weeks as

replacements filled in. Lack of fan support for the players in that strike could encourage owners to try replacements again.

"Owners are probably saying to themselves, well, let's see if fans would rather come see some other players than these overpriced babies," labor advocate Les Leopold said.

"Then they'll start a public relations move saying, 'It's time for baseball to continue, here's a product, we're going to have cheap admission for a whole year, come on, play ball, let's go.' And they start promoting these new kids."

That leaves it up to the fans. "If they can get them in the stadium, that's the interesting thing," Leopold said.

A Lou Harris poll found that 48 percent of avowed baseball fans said the players are more to blame, while 36 percent said the owners are more at fault.

This comes despite widespread finger-pointing at the owners by the media elite.

In a *Sports Illustrated* article flatly headlined "Blame the Bosses," Jack McCallum rejected "stupidly neutral, pax-on-both-their-houses rhetoric."

New York Times humor columnist Russell Baker wrote that in society today "in the fan department I am sure of only one thing. The baseball strike is the owners' fault."

Said Halberstam: "The idea that the fans are really alienated not just from the owners but from the players as well... is a public relations victory for the owners because in the past the fans never identified with the owners, the identification was with the players."

But in denigrating players, owners run the risk of devaluing their product competing against other sports.

Halberstam and sociology professor Stanley Aronowitz, a labor expert, both think sports will always be a key element in the cultural mix, but particular sports may rise and fall.

"I think one sport really goes up at the expense of another sport in an entertainment society," said Halberstam.

"We could have new sports, but there'll always be sports, and old sports may fade away," said Aronowitz.

Halberstam suspected that the National Hockey League, which seemed poised for a popularity surge before its current work stoppage, might be vulnerable because it is not so deeply rooted in the US.

"I never thought hockey would pick up as a major TV sport. I don't think it's in the genes," Halberstam said. "Baseball is rooted, it's in the genes."

Aronowitz said: "You know, basketball 30 years ago was not a big league. Football

Love, Law know no Border

BRISBANE (Reuters) - Queensland batsman Martin Love and Stuart Law marked the opening day of the Sheffield Shield season with centuries yesterday, overshadowing former test captain Allan Border's return as a full-time member of the side.

Love led the way by smashing a belligerent 187 as Queensland amassed a daunting 417 for four against Tasmania at the close of play at the Gabba in Brisbane.

The Queensland number three added 326 runs in a third wicket partnership with captain Stuart Law, who contributed a fine 145.

Border, batting number five for his state side following his retirement from international cricket in May, was reduced to a supporting role, compiling a cautious nine not out.

The veteran left-hander's previous Shield appearances have been severely limited because of his test commitments over the past 15 years.

After being sent into bat by last year's losing Shield finalists, the home side recovered from the early loss of opener Matthew Hayden for five.

Sanders coming to Atlanta, grudge match looming

SANTA CLARA (AP) - Deion Sanders' Atlanta homecoming is shaping up as a grudge match, one that offers first place to the winner.

The three-time Pro Bowl cornerback, who spent five seasons in Atlanta, returns to the Georgia Dome on Sunday when the 49ers meet the Falcons. Both teams are 4-2 and tied for the top spot in the NFC West.

"Hopefully, I'll get booed," said Sanders, playing in his fifth game since signing with the 49ers on September 15. "There'll be some mixed emotions, but I'm sure I'll get booed. Shoot, if your woman left you and she came back three weeks later with a whole bunch of new men, you know, I don't think you'd welcome her with open arms, right?"

Sanders went through a similar homecoming earlier this year when he returned to Atlanta as a member of the Cincinnati Reds, who acquired him from the Braves.

Sanders said he's been puzzled and hurt by critical comments from some of his former teammates.

Linebacker Jessie Tuggle said he and others resented the special status afforded Sanders, who was allowed to miss the first few weeks of football season to finish his baseball duties. The baseball strike and subsequent cancellation

of the remainder of the season allowed Sanders to join the 49ers much earlier than would have been possible otherwise.

Atlanta receiver Andre Rison also was critical of his former teammate, saying Sanders wasn't much of a team player, and Craig Heyward got into the act this week, saying Sanders had hogged the publicity.

"This stuff is crazy. I wish they had been man enough to tell me those things when I was there," Sanders said.

49ers defensive end Toi Cook said he was surprised Falcons players bad-mouthed Sanders.

"To me, that's stupidity and jealousy, especially after all he did for that team," Cook said. "All I know is he has seven interceptions in 10 games last season. He made them a better team."

Sanders said Rison's comments bothered him the most. Sanders, who is expected to be assigned to Rison for most of the game, said the last time he spoke with him was to console Rison after fire had destroyed his home.

"But I got nothing but love for Andre and all the guys on the team, man. This is something all new to me, that I was perceived to be this way or disliked that much as an Atlanta Falcon."

Sanders said if he could, he would like nothing better than to go one-on-one with Rison to settle their differences.

"Yeah, if it was possible, I'd love for everyone else to get off the field so we could go at it. I'm that kind of guy," Sanders said.

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Court cites Liba'i in bar suspension case

EVELYN GORDON

THE High Court of Justice yesterday gave Justice Minister David Liba'i and the Israel Bar Association 45 days to explain why the association's secretary-general should not be suspended from all his public posts, due to allegations of sexual harassment against him.

In addition to being secretary-general of the bar, Shimon Ben-Ya'acov is a member of the bar's executive committee and of the state's committee for appointing judges.

Justices Aharon Barak, Dalia Dorner and Zvi Tal issued the order in response to a petition by Orli Shimon, who has worked as a bookkeeper for the bar for the past seven years.

Shimon charged that for the past year, she has been subject to constant sexual harassment by Ben-Ya'acov. He would ask her to bring various documents to his office for him to sign and would then offer to pay her for various sexual acts, she said.

When this failed, she said, he would sometimes use force against her.

Shimon said she has three tapes of Ben-Ya'acov's conversations with her which prove her accusations. She also underwent a polygraph test at Na'amati's legal aid office, which verified her story, she said.

Shimon's complaints are currently being investigated by both the police and the bar's acting controller, according to the petition. However, she said, most of the bar officials have not taken her story seriously.

She therefore asked the court to order Ben-Ya'acov suspended from his public posts until the two investigations are completed and to order the bar to continue fulfilling its financial obligations to her.

In response, the court issued a show-cause order yesterday, and will decide on Sunday whether to issue an interim injunction preventing Ben-Ya'acov from fulfilling any public posts until a final decision is made on the petition.

Treasury to inject funds into health system

JUDY SIEGEL

FINANCE Minister Avraham Shohat and Health Minister Ephraim Sneh last night agreed that the Treasury would inject an additional NIS 225 million into the health system next year, making it more likely the national health insurance system will begin as scheduled in January.

Although Sneh had stated earlier in the day that without an additional NIS 1 billion, the health system would be plunged into catastrophe, a joint communiqué issued by the two ministries said the agreement "solves the disagreement between the Health and Finance ministries, which affected the completion of Kupat Holim Clalit's recovery plan as well."

Sneh earlier demanded that the Treasury cover the increased cost of the basket of health services resulting from the 50 percent salary increases for health workers over the past year — plus funds to cover new medications and medical technology that have become available since the bill was approved. He said the extra costs totaled NIS 1b.

If not, he argued, the national health insurance system would create two levels of medical services, in which the better-off would purchase supplementary health services on the private market and the rest would do without.

In addition to the NIS 225m, the Finance Ministry will add another sum to help cover the addition costs of residents who until now have not

had health insurance. The size of this grant will be decided during the first quarter of 1995, the statement said.

The seemingly harmonious joint communiqué was belied by different views voiced by the ministers' spokeswomen.

Health Ministry spokeswoman Yifat Ben-Hai said the ministry expected to get more than NIS 225m. for this purpose, while Finance Ministry spokeswoman Elishava Braun said the Treasury aimed at a considerably smaller figure.

Braun added that the NIS 225m. figure, which brings the total cost of the national basket of health services in 1995 to NIS 12.3b. (most of which will be financed from the citizen's pocket through a national health tax) is "final."

Ben-Hai, however, insisted that this was "only a start to get the health insurance law running, and the ministry would ask for more later."

According to the joint statement, issued after Sneh and Shohat met in the Finance Ministry in Jerusalem, the agreement will require the health funds and hospitals to "make themselves more efficient."

This, according to the Treasury spokeswoman, would "obviously entail dismissals and other ways of saving money."

The two ministers will meet this morning in Tel Aviv with the leadership of the Histadrut to discuss "the last details" in Clalit's recovery program.

Ha'ammakim police seize drugs in night bust

DAVID RUDGE

DRUG squad officers from the Ha'ammakim district, aided by members of the special anti-terror squad, seized seven and-a-half kilograms of heroin in an operation late on Wednesday night, police reported yesterday.

Four suspected major drug dealers were arrested in the operation, which followed weeks of intelligence gathering.

Police said the heroin seized would have been worth millions of shekels when broken down and sold on the streets.

It was the second successful large-scale drug bust by the Ha'ammakim unit recently.

Two weeks ago, the squad, in co-operation with police from the Gal-

ilee district, seized 10.5 kilograms of heroin in a similar operation near the Golan junction.

Two suspected dealers were caught at the scene and arrested on that occasion.

The raid on Wednesday night took place in open fields near the Beduin village Beit Zarzir, which is located close to the Nahalal junction.

Police said the suspects detained at the scene were all residents of Beit Zarzir. The operation itself was led by Chief-Superintendent Ya'acov Zeigdon.

Northern region Deputy-Commander Rammi Rahav said the incident underscored an increase in drug dealing among members of the Beduin community.



Film director Lord Richard Attenborough poses yesterday at the start of his five-day visit here as the guest of the Diaspora Museum in Tel Aviv. The museum is honoring him for his family's involvement in saving Jews during World War II. (Eliav Grubis/Israel Sun)

66,000 pairs of smuggled shoes seized

CUSTOMS authorities on Wednesday discovered 66,000 pairs of shoes smuggled from China, that the importer said had come from Italy to avoid paying NIS 1.5 million in duties, the Customs and Value Added Tax Department reported yesterday.

The authorities have recently begun making a special effort to stop the use of false certificates of origin from the US and the European Union, whose goods are exempted from duties, to avoid paying duties on goods from other countries.

Jose Rosenfeld

'Dinitz was given any expenses he asked for'

EVELYN GORDON

FOR other Jewish Agency officials, there were rules regarding how much money they could receive for a trip, but chairman Shmuel Dinitz was given whatever he asked for, a prosecution witness said yesterday.

Dinitz is on trial for fraud and breach of trust in the Jerusalem District Court for allegedly charging \$22,000 worth of personal expenses to the agency. The witness, Ya'acov Refi, served as treasurer of the World Zionist Organization's New York office from 1985-89.

Refi said that normally, when agency or WZO officials from Israel came to visit, they would bring a card with their grade, and this would entitle them to a certain amount of cash for their trip, plus the reimbursement of certain expenses.

Dinitz, however, never came with such a card, he said.

"The head of the Jewish Agency should come with a card in hand and present it," he asked. "We acted according to his requests... [and paid him] whatever he asked."

Refi insisted it was not his job to decide whether a particular expense was really necessary. Reports were sent back to Jerusalem every month, he said. If officials there had questions, they could ask Dinitz.

Refi confirmed he had paid some of Dinitz's Sims credit card bills, even though he knew the card was Dinitz's own, as opposed to an agency card, and even though he knew Sims was a clothing store.

In one case, Refi confirmed that he had even paid a personal Visa bill of Dinitz's, which had been sent to Dinitz's home address in Jerusalem.

During the cross-examination, defense attorney Uri Wagman attacked Refi's statement that he never realized any of Dinitz's bills were

personal.

In one case, he noted, Refi's report to Jerusalem had explicitly stated that half the bill should be paid by the agency and half by Dinitz.

Refi replied that he must have gotten a special order from Jerusalem to split the bill that way. Again, however, police did not find such an order.

Refi was the second witness to testify yesterday.

The first, head of American Friends of Hebrew University Yair Kagan, was brought in to contradict Dinitz's statement to the police that he got into the habit of sending personal bills to his employer during his time as vice-president of the university.

Dinitz had told the police that American Friends would pay his personal expenses, and he would then reimburse them.

However, Wagman said during the examination that Dinitz had been mistaken in this assertion.

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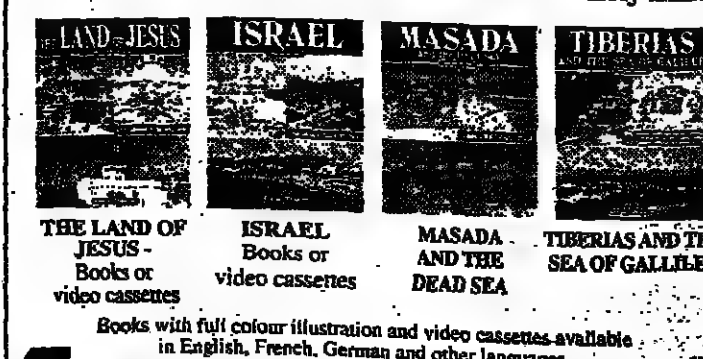
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Palestinian force has day of reckoning

Police in the autonomous areas have failed to fulfill what Israel considers their prime task: fighting terrorism. **Steve Rodan reports**

IT'S 2 a.m. on a moonless night and the only lights are those of a nearby Jewish community. Hiding in a nearby vineyard are 100 crack IDF soldiers. Unmarked cars patrol the roads.

The reason: an intelligence alert that Hamas or another Palestinian terror squad was planning to attack that Jewish settlement. It followed yet another alert that Hamas would launch antitank missiles at another settlement.

In both cases, Hamas never came. But the effort reflected the tremendous concern Israel has that the Islamic terror group will step up attacks in the territories just as Israeli troops are preparing to redeploy from Palestinian towns and villages in Judea and Samaria. Security sources believe that the Israeli evacuation will mean more freedom of action for Hamas and less for Israeli troops.

Few Israeli security officials expect the Palestinian police force to help curb terrorism. Six months after Yasser Arafat arrived in Jericho the Palestinian police has turned into a toothless and underpaid force ordered by Arafat to avoid confrontation with the Islamic opposition.

"This is perhaps our biggest worry regarding the peace process," a senior US diplomat says, "that Arafat will just let things slide and Hamas terrorism will get out of control."

The abduction of Nahshon Wachman typifies the deadlock in Palestinian-Israeli security efforts. Israeli security sources say they're not asking much of the Palestinians. They say they know Wachman is being held in Gaza. They even believe they have specific data on his whereabouts.

"The PLO has not only to take responsibility," Minister Yossi Sarid says. "It has to exercise it as well. It has to be the boss."

Israeli officials want the Palestinians to act: to order a house-to-house search for the soldier. They want the Palestinians to crack down as the IDF would have.

Until now, the Palestinian arrests have been half-hearted, officials say. Palestinian forces would detain dozens of Hamas political leaders believed to have no knowledge of terrorist attacks and then free them. The officials are just as skeptical of yesterday's arrest of 200 Hamas activists, including suspected terrorists, regarding the sweep as an attempt to ease US and Israeli pressure on Arafat rather than finding Wachman.

A genuine counterterrorist operation, officials say, would achieve two things. First, they say, it would flush out the kidnapers



or their victim. Second, it would prove to a skeptical Israeli public that cooperation with the Palestinian Authority can successfully fight terrorism.

THIS IS exactly what Arafat does not want. He has turned down any suggestion of joint operations.

"There cannot be two authorities in the same area," says Sufian Abu Zeida, head of the Israel desk of the Palestinian Authority. Palestinian and Israeli security officials still meet regularly. The joint patrols in Gaza and Jericho continue. Even valuable intelligence is occasionally exchanged. But the Palestinians have refused to act to foil terrorist attacks or capture fugitives who have fled to Gaza and Jericho. Instead, officials say several Palestinian criminal suspects have been quietly handed over to Israeli authorities.

"There were areas in which we wanted to help them," Deputy Defense Minister Mordechai Gur says. "But they saw this as patronizing."

Security sources acknowledge that some of their expectations of Arafat were unrealistic. They had shared the assessment made by Rabin's military advisers that the PLO leader would crack down on Hamas as well as other violent opponents of the Middle East peace process to ensure the stability of his new regime.

"This was naive and irresponsible," says Yigal Carmon, until 1993 the adviser to the prime minister on counterterrorism and today a severe critic of Rabin's security policies.

Indeed, the Palestinian force is said to be teetering. The huge majority of officers are former members of the Palestine Liberation Army with no training in police work. Their families have remained in the Arab countries and the policemen feel isolated.

On the job, they have seen themselves more as liberators than those maintaining order.

"They are extremely soft, perhaps too soft, in dealing with the population," a leading Palestinian human rights activist says.

The Israeli-Palestinian joint patrols are becoming spotty. The Palestinian police don't show up for a variety of reasons. The result is that often Israelis are banned from entering Jericho. It's a far cry from the early weeks of the Palestinian Authority, when Palestinian and Israeli policemen patrolled together, ate together and formed friendships.

Israeli commanders saw their Palestinian counterparts as professionals intent on imposing stability.

They were told that the Palestinian police would first sweep through Gaza to collect thousands of illegal weapons.

The hopes were dashed with Arafat's arrival. He soon limited police commanders' authority. His own intelligence service targeted political opponents for intense surveillance, and Israeli sources say they have built a respectable network.

Israeli officials tried to appeal to the professional pride of Palestinian police. Privately, they admitted that their hands were tied.

In August, Gaza police chief Gen. Nasser Yusuf made his complaint public. He told reporters that his men could arrest Palestinian gunmen the minute he receives such orders. He never did.

TODAY, MANY Palestinian police seem disappointed in their jobs. Most of the nearly 10,000-man force is being paid less than \$300 a month, far below the \$500 set by the Western donor nations in determining their aid to the Palestinian authority. Palestinian opposition sources say Arafat is siphoning money from the salaries for other purposes.

Some Palestinian sources suspect the money is being used to provide generous pay and benefits to Arafat's security services. There are at least two such security services in Gaza and Jericho and coordination is often absent.

In the meantime, thousands of Palestinian cops are working or looking for second jobs.

For some of the policemen, the temptation to rent out their Kalashnikovs or those from the police arsenal is strong. One such weapon found at the site of Sunday's attack was registered as belonging to the Palestinian police.

"What kind of loyalty can you buy for \$200 to \$300 a month?" a security source asks.

Enter Hamas. The group enjoys funding from such countries as Iran, Saudi Arabia and Sudan, and from Moslems worldwide. Their ideology and money buy supporters and agents at will. Security sources say many Hamas killings are committed by free lancers looking for easy money.

At a police ceremony yesterday, Arafat accused Iran of directing the latest wave of Hamas attacks against Israel.

Hamas also enjoys freedom of movement. It trains in Gaza and easily slips over the porous border with Israel. Security sources say infiltration is even easier from Jericho. Despite the roadblocks, Palestinians have no trouble entering Israel via dirt roads from Judea and Samaria. The Gaza and Israeli borders with Egypt are stomping grounds for drug and gun smugglers.

So far, Israeli authorities have been blessed with a combination of excellent luck and an apparent Hamas decision to maintain a relatively low level of terror. The question is whether the abduction of Wachman and the bloody attack in downtown Jerusalem are the first signs of a Hamas offensive, which might peak when Israeli troops leave Palestinian towns in Judea and Samaria.

That would give Hamas new safe havens and limit the jurisdiction of Israeli security forces. Counterterrorism experts believe with security rapidly declining, Israel might have to intervene in the territories even at the cost of confronting the Palestinian police.

"Hamas hasn't gone all the way," Carmon says. "They have a lot more capability."

PA's handling of case is key to peace process

The kidnapping exposed weaknesses in Israel-PA coordination, but also gave the sides a chance to improve it, **Jon Immanuel writes**

THE abduction of Nahshon Wachman has brought the underlying weaknesses of the peace process to the surface.

The government immediately placed full responsibility for Wachman's "safe return" from Gaza on the Palestinian Authority and "personally" on Yasser Arafat, as though he and the kidnapers were part of the same gang.

Through his spokesmen, Arafat denied that he was any more responsible for Wachman's safety than Israel, even if the soldier was in Gaza. Responsibility was thrown back like a hot potato. The Israeli belief that Wachman was in Gaza and the Palestinian Authority's reply that "there was no tangible evidence" showed tangibly how little coordination there is between sides' security services.

Palestinians did not appreciate the seriousness of the issue for Israel. When Israel froze election talks in Cairo, the Palestinian chief delegate Saeb Erekat told reporters there it was another Israeli excuse for procrastination. In Gaza, Arafat's media adviser Marwan Khanafani said, "I don't think such operations should affect the peace process itself."

Affect the peace process, it did. Not only the Cairo talks, but Israeli-Palestinian trade union talks in Oslo this weekend and a meeting Wednesday in Tel Aviv between Gaza's mayor and Israel's agriculture minister were shelved.

For the time being, the freeze is a success for all opponents of the peace process, something that Prime Minister Rabin had said must be avoided at all costs. But Hamas, by threatening to execute a kidnapped Israeli, has found Israel's raw nerve, as it did in 1992's abduction-murder of border policeman Nissim Toledano.

For Palestinians the way they handle this crisis looks like the key to the future of the peace process. But instead of leading to an outpouring of resentment against the extreme opponents of peace, the kidnapping has pitted its Israeli and Palestinian supporters against each other. This is because the kidnapers have not openly opposed the peace process itself.

Supporters of the peace process appreciate the declared motives of the kidnapers - freedom for some 200 prisoners. The demand is even regarded as modest since the Palestinian Authority has argued that all remaining prisoners, some 5,000, should be immediately released.

Weekly meetings and protests, have been held by prisoner solidarity committees in Gaza since May. "For everything that hap-

pened, responsibility is on the shoulders of Israel," said Samiha Khalil, who runs a rehabilitation center in Al-Bireh.

Planning Minister Nabil Shaath, one of the calmest voices in the Palestinian Authority, was quoted yesterday by the daily *An-Nahar*. "If Israel had abided by the Cairo Agreement and released all the prisoners, the perpetrators of such an operation would have lost all ability to mobilize the Palestinians against the peace process."

Shaath went further on the Voice of Palestine and criticized Israel's closure of Gaza too, although Israel sees it as a security measure, not a punishment.

The defensive comments voiced on the day following the announcement of Wachman's abduction may however be giving way to more sober analysis and improved coordination.

Both Shaath and Khanafani spoke as well of a "collective responsibility" to resolve the issue, and clearly the crisis will only be resolved through close coordination. Israeli-Palestinian patrols in Gaza were stepped up Wednesday. By Wednesday night, the second night of the crisis, Arafat had warned Hamas leaders he held them responsible and had given orders to search homes of known Hamas supporters.

Wednesday night, police arrested up to 200 Hamas supporters, mostly youths but also some notable, among them Ibrahim Yazuri and a several imams, the PLO office said. Neighbors said police broke down the door of the home of Hamas spokesman Dr. Mahmud Zahar and smashed windows when they did not find him there.

A wound once opened is more easily identified and treated. Arafat and Rabin do ultimately have a common interest here and nobody has much to gain from failure. Neither Rabin nor Arafat wants to strengthen Hamas by caving in to ransom demands by Islamic gunmen, although Arafat will undoubtedly press for action on prisoner releases afterwards.

The safe return of the soldier would be a first in the annals of Hamas abductions, would strengthen the peace process and the personal authority of Arafat.

If Arafat shows sincerity and effectiveness in trying to secure Wachman's release, even if it ends in tragic failure, revulsion might set the ground for a move by the PA away from conciliation with Hamas. As one step in this direction, the PA Higher Security Council on Wednesday forbade "all actions which can embarrass the authority."

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Gaza-connected attacks jinx prize-winning PM

This week's terror incidents have hit the government and the peace process at a most inopportune time, Sarah Honig writes

THE kidnapping of the soldier in the center of Israel couldn't have come at a worse moment for Rabin. If I were superstitious, I would say that Rabin is jinxed, a minister to the left of the prime minister commented in almost pitiful tones.

The minister asserted, "It would be unusual to sit in Cairo now and negotiate peace with the Palestinians" after Sunday night's attack by Gaza terrorists in downtown Jerusalem and Tuesday's kidnapping of a soldier, who was transported to Gaza, "where Arafat is supposed to be ruling," he added.

"There is a point where even ardent peace seekers like myself can't ignore the revulsion and disgust that Gazans are causing in the Israeli street," the minister says. "There are things which cannot be rammed down Israeli throats, among them negotiations with Arafat under any and all conditions."

The jinx comes into this, he explains, "because the kidnapping came just when news leaks from Oslo named Rabin and Arafat this year's Nobel Peace Prize winners."

"It's almost a cruel joke on Rabin. He can't enjoy the honor [reportedly] bestowed upon him. It might make him the object of ridicule," the minister judges. "Besides the problem of sharing a prize with Arafat—who after all is not Mother Theresa—there is the problem of sharing the prize at a time when we are bound to hold Arafat responsible for the terror emanating from Gaza. The prize won't make Rabin popular. I am afraid."

After a brief pause, he adds: "This is a sad time for the peace process."

But why? The government thus far had managed to overlook dozens of acts of terror which had occurred after peace had ostensibly been achieved. The line had been that the acts were perpetrated by the Hamas "enemies of peace" and that the PLO and Arafat were uninvolved.

What makes this different, Labor politicians stress, is the blatant Gaza connection which could no longer be swept under the carpet.

The government was severely embarrassed by the Jerusalem

shooting, just prior to the kidnapping, since the terrorist duo may have included one of Arafat's own policemen who fired a weapon issued to Arafat's police, as well as a prisoner freed as part of "a confidence-building measure" requested by Arafat to further the peace process.

A kidnapping in the heart of Israel and the transfer of the victim to Gaza could no longer allow the government to belittle opposition outcries that the city has become a safe haven to which killers can escape with impunity and from which they can plot further outrages.

Economics Minister Shimon Shetret points out, "Israel TV had interviewed two Hamas leaders in Gaza who boasted with glee that they were drilling and preparing for kidnap missions." He said the interviewees were responsible for the latest kidnapping. "The fact that they can carry on their terrorist activity and maneuvers without fear under Arafat's umbrella makes Arafat responsible for the crimes they eventually carry out."

He either can control his territory or he can't. If he can't, then our government faces an enormous dilemma, because the public will justifiably demand to know why we are making all these concessions to a man who cannot live up to his part of the bargain. If he can exercise control but doesn't want to for one consideration or another, then the problem for the government is greater because we are then dealing with a man who operates in bad faith. In either case, this is something the government cannot ignore.

OFF THE record many in Labor express doubts about whether, after this episode, the peace process can again be resumed as if nothing had happened. "The terrorists had been too clearly linked to Arafat's Gaza," a hawkish Labor MK said, amending a Yiddish expression. "The oilen isn't always a golem," the public is not always stupid. "After what people had witnessed this week, I don't know if their faith in the process can ever be restored."

What makes it worse is the fact that "the attacks this week had not been on settlers in the territories,

with whom some in Israel don't empathize. The fear is that what took place this week could happen to anyone anywhere."

"When your personal safety is so threatened, it is hard to sell anyone Peres's visions of utopia. Personal safety is a potent political factor which cannot be diminished by a picture of Arafat in a tuxedo and how he shaking the Norwegian king's hand."

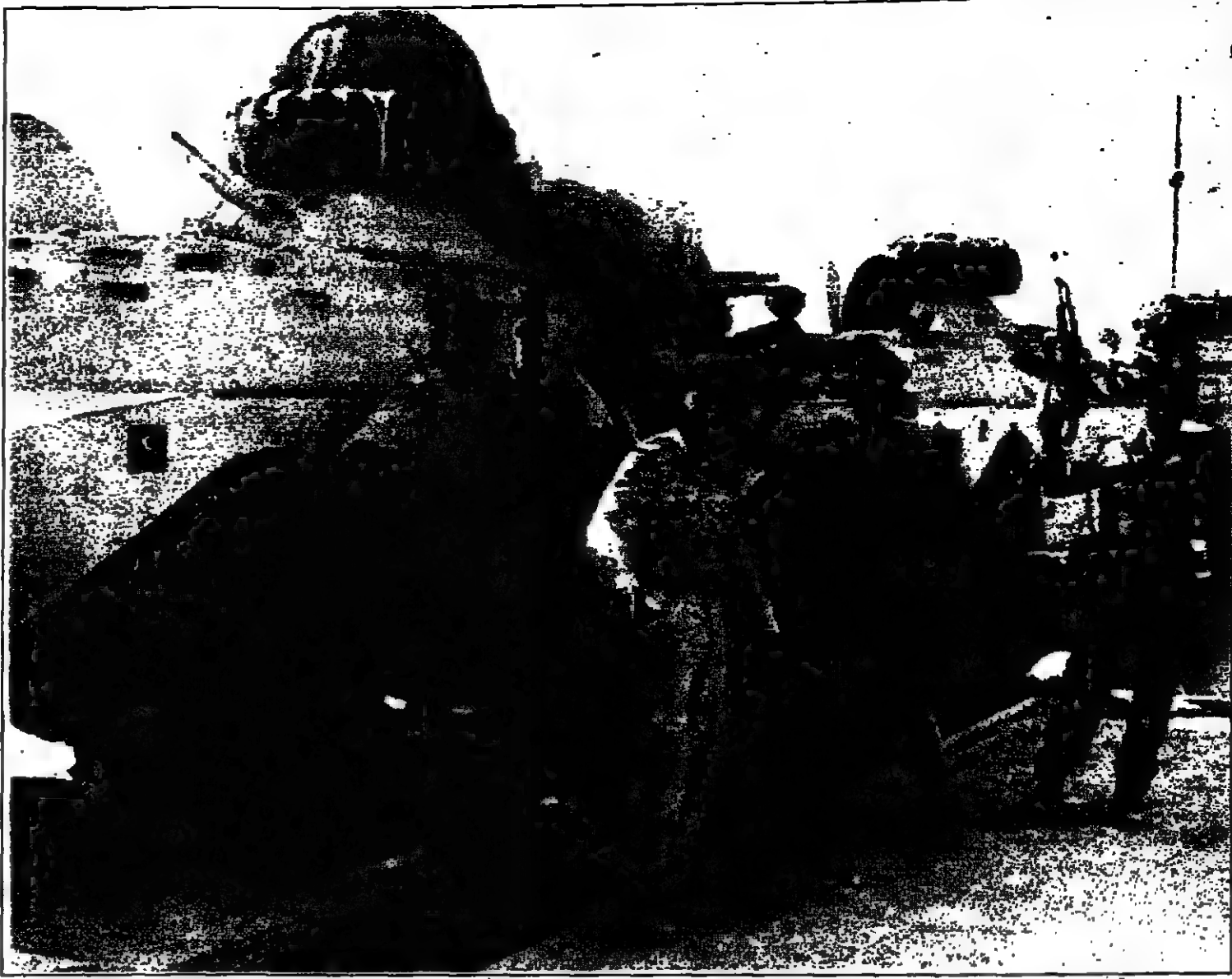
The minister and the MK agree that the future of the peace process is shrouded in uncertainty because of the particularly galling aspect of the latest outrages, "and especially because it is all happening to a weak government," as the MK puts it bluntly.

Two things have contributed to the government's weakness: its failure to sway public opinion regarding a possible withdrawal from the Golan, and the odds against Rabin's ability to return Shas to the government. Thus Rabin is still threatened by rebellion over the Golan within his own party, and the feeling in all Labor camps is that the deal with Shas will not escape unscathed when the High Court rules on petitions against the coalition agreement. Even if it is not rejected outright, the court may well make it impossible for Shas to rejoin the coalition.

Shas cannot now afford to accept anything less than total commitment from Rabin to legislation to circumvent High Court decisions if Shas deems these to be in breach of the status quo on religious affairs.

In Shas, there are whispers that party strongman Aryeh Deri never really wanted to return to the coalition and, therefore, demanded of Rabin the most exorbitant price he could come up with. To his shock, Rabin acceded, leaving Deri caught in his own trap. Deri needs the High Court to extricate him. Rabin might even welcome a way out of the Shas-Meretetz war raging around him.

"Technically, the government will be able to survive somehow," predicts the minister, "but the question is whether it will have sufficient strength to lead the nation down really difficult and controversial paths. For this, the government will need an extra dose of good luck to exorcise the jinx and offset events of this incredibly bad week, which seems to have borne out the opposition's most dire prophecies."



Iraqi soldiers stand near tanks in Basra. The country has retained more tanks from the Gulf War than initially thought. (AP)

The bully on the block returns

Iraq's menacing advances on Kuwait prove that Saddam Hussein retains more armed might than many thought, Dore Gold writes

BACK in March 1991, with the US Army occupying a quarter of his country, Saddam Hussein was supposed to be finished militarily.

He had been driven out of Kuwait in a lightning ground war. His military infrastructure had been bombed for six weeks; his access to military spare parts had been cut off by UN sanctions.

Only long-range planners seriously considered the possibility that Iraq could again pose a threat to Kuwait.

Yet by October 1994, Saddam Hussein was positioning himself for a replay of the August 1990 invasion of Kuwait. True, the numbers had changed. Then, Kuwait was invaded by three Republican Guard divisions backed by half-a-dozen other formations. The current crisis erupted when two Republican Guard divisions went southward, from the Baghdad area, for the first time since 1991. Together with the forces stationed in this sector, Iraq suddenly had 1,000 tanks and 80,000 men on the Kuwaiti border.

How did the Iraqis become powerful enough to threaten an

other invasion of Kuwait?

First, the Iraqi ground forces were far less damaged during the Gulf war than initially thought. General Norman Schwarzkopf's analysts originally claimed that nearly 50 percent of the tanks in many Republican Guard divisions were destroyed in the air war alone.

But a CIA study of the battlefield, released in September 1993, found that many of the tanks in these heavy divisions managed to flee southern Iraq. For example, the Hammurabi Republican Guard division had 294 tanks before the Gulf war, and served as the vanguard of the 1990 assault on Kuwait.

The war did force Iraq to cut its massive army from over 50 divisions to just 30, but these cuts were mainly in its weaker infantry units. It is more instructive to look at its most capable heavy units, including the Republican Guard. These were the forces that won the Iran-Iraq War, at key battles near Basra and Faw, and served as the vanguard of the 1990 assault on Kuwait.

In 1989-90, Iraq had a total of 10 armored or mechanized divisions (four of which were Republican Guard units); in 1993, Iraq could still put together the same number of high-quality ground divisions.

While significantly cutting the fat from his oversized regular army, Saddam had carefully protected the muscle of his main

assault forces.

Second, Iraqi power must be measured against that of its adversary, in this case, Kuwait. In 1994, the Kuwaiti army did not have even a single division to put up against Iraq, but only a few, undermanned brigades. The balance of power between Iraq and Kuwait is so skewed in Baghdad's favor that even a significantly weakened Iraqi army could slice right through any force the Kuwaitis would manage to assemble.

Moreover, the timeliness and strength of the US response demonstrated certain problems. After the Gulf war, the US had managed to reposition equipment for a single 4,000-man American brigade in Kuwait. This allowed President Clinton to rapidly deploy some troops of the 24th Mechanized Infantry Division to Kuwait, where their tanks were waiting.

But it took these troops two days to get organized and move into combat positions. Lead elements of the Iraqi army were already some 20 kilometers from the Kuwaiti border when the first American troops landed in Kuwait.

Saddam did not reinstate Kuwait, if that was indeed his intention this time, because he was deterred by the threat of American retaliation, but not because of what stood in his way.

SADDAM'S LATEST provocation is forcing the US to reconsider security arrangements so that

they can compensate for the Iraqi resurgence and Kuwait's weakness. In the fall of 1992, the UN instituted a no-fly zone south of the 32nd parallel in Iraq, in which the Iraqi Air Force is prohibited from flying. The zone is patrolled regularly by coalition aircraft.

In an address on September 23, CIA Director James Woolsey said Saddam is determined to reestablish his authority over all of Iraq. "He is bent on eroding UN authority and inspections in his country, ending sanctions, eliminating no-fly zones..."

One of the suggestions for new security arrangements includes the establishment of a ground-exclusion zone, which would keep Saddam's heavy armored and mechanized divisions a safe distance north of Kuwait.

But the Clinton administration is reluctant to adopt this kind of proposal. Not only is it uncertain it can muster French and Russian support; it must also recognize that if Saddam is seeking to break out of the no-fly zone, as Woolsey noted, he will constantly initiate provocations to break down a ground-exclusion zone. Significant limitations on state sovereignty, particularly in the Arab world, are extremely difficult to sustain.

The debate over security arrangements for Iraq will be of interest to Israel. Israel is, of course, incomparably stronger than Kuwait, but it is close to Kuwait in size. Israel faces 10 Syrian armored and mechanized divisions with better equipment than Iraq's 10 heavy divisions—less than 80 kilometers from its border. And Israel is studying the possible creation of a ground-exclusion zone (or "limited forces area") in southern Syria, as part of any Golan withdrawal agreement.

It remains to be seen whether the Clinton administration will apply any lessons it learns from one part of the Middle East to another part of the same region.

The writer is the director of the US Foreign and Defense Policy Project—Jaffee Center for Strategic Studies, Tel Aviv University.

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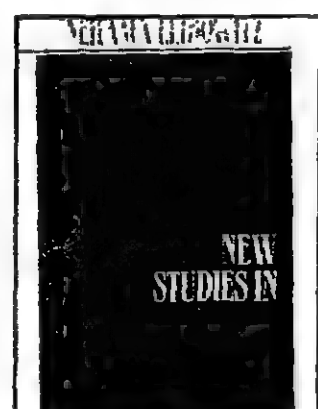
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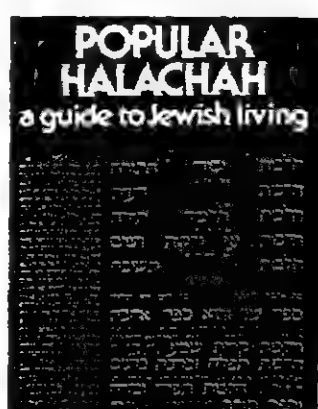
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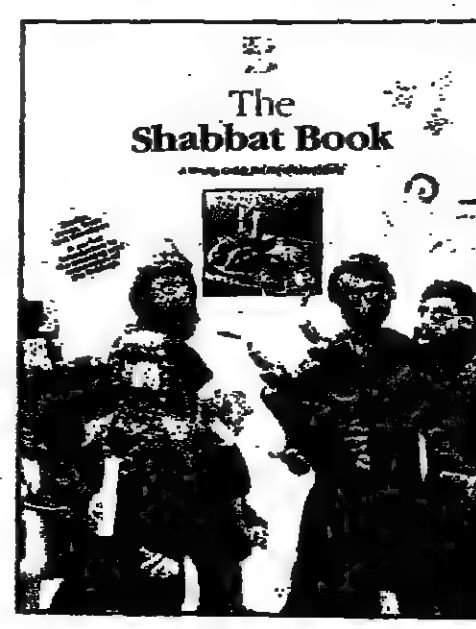
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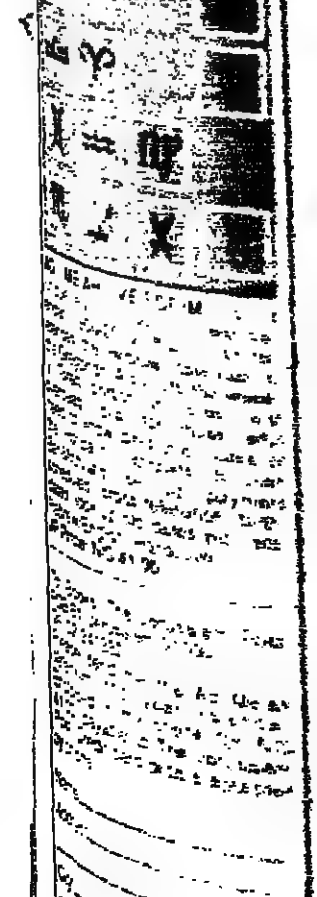
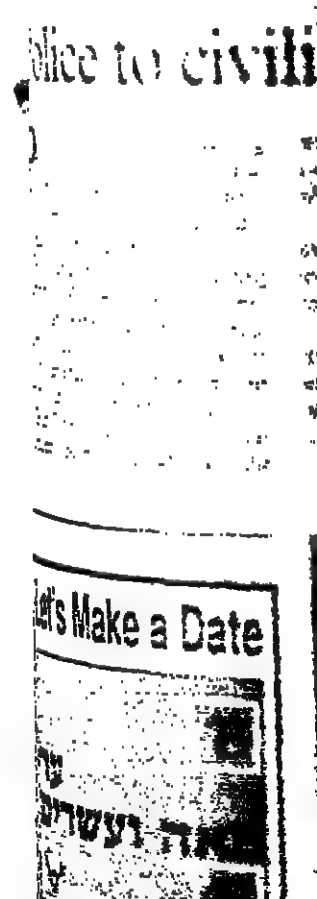
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Ephraim Sneh: I will improve health care

The health minister is intent on reforming the system, but also keenly interested in security.
Steve Rodan reports

EPHRAIM Sneh rarely makes headlines. The health minister isn't given to making bombastic remarks. Instead, he spends most of his time dealing with reforming the health system.

This means ensuring that the new national health insurance law does not end up eroding the basket of health services guaranteed in the legislation. The issue is now being fought out with the Treasury and decisions are expected next week.

But Sneh does not want to be left out of government policy regarding Middle East negotiations. As a former member of the Knesset foreign affairs and defense committee, his main concern is Syria. He supports territorial compromise on the Golan Heights, but not returning the entire area.

A reserve brigadier who served in Lebanon, Sneh is worried that Israel will reach agreement with Syria without ensuring that the strategic balance remains unchanged.

That means that Israel will at least keep the water resources that emanate from the Heights as well as some of the high ground that would allow it to monitor Syrian military activities.

A former head of the Civil Administration in Judea and Samaria, Sneh also closely follows developments among the Palestinians. His fear is that the authority will fall apart.

You've returned from the US and have seen its health system. Do you appreciate the system we have here or would you like to move toward privatization?

In the United States, people spend 15 percent of their income on health care. Here, we're talking about 4.8 percent. So, the government has to make up the rest. What I am fighting now is that we at least maintain the existing quality of services.

Is the new health insurance law deficient?

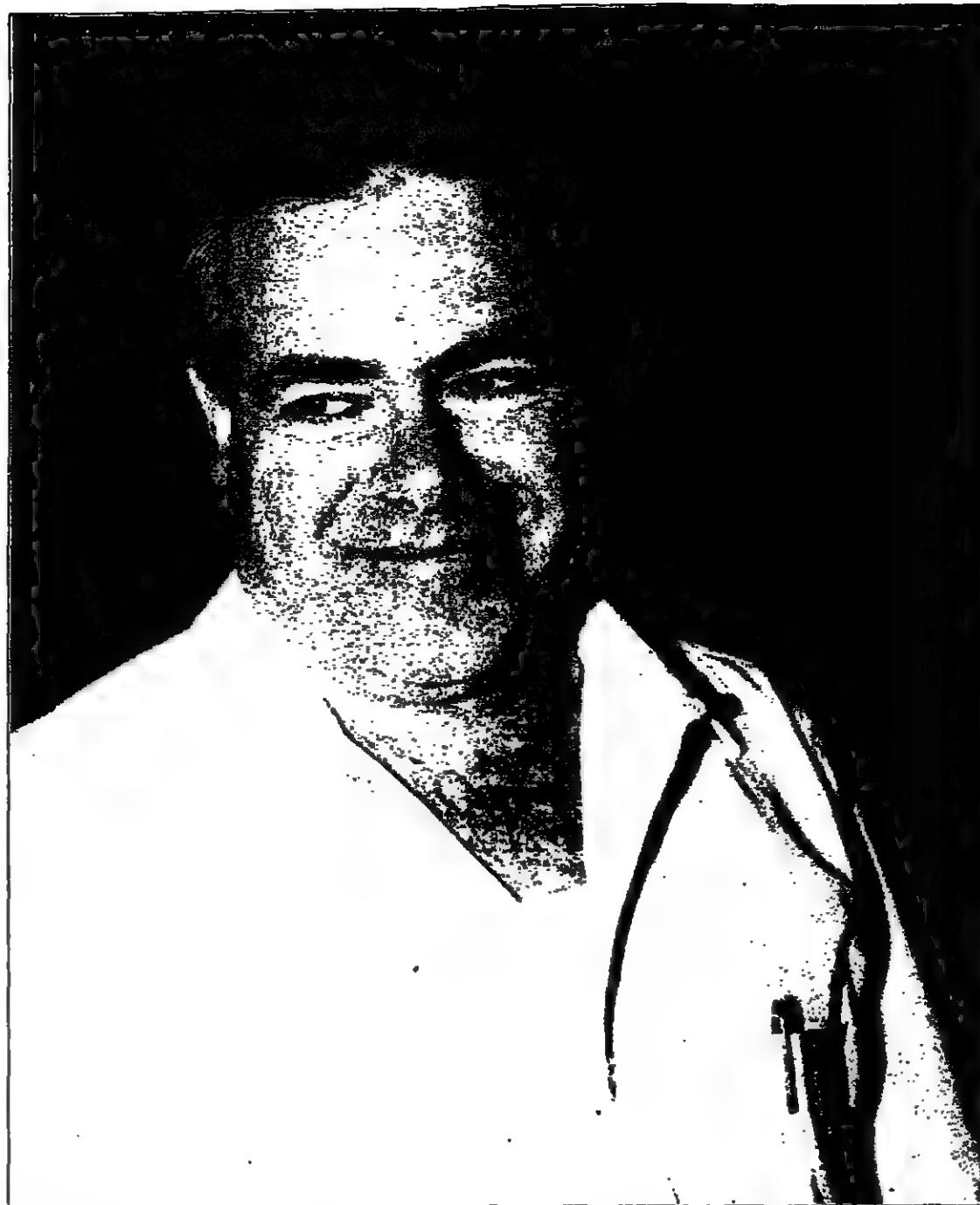
Yes. I think the mechanism of calculation, what we call the health index, is not correctly calculated because it gives too small a share for the wages of the medical staff.

The bill also ignores the necessary supplement in medical technology. The estimate is very conservative - 2 percent. It's a modest estimate but we can live with it. Less than this, I have to say we can't obtain new drugs for cancer and AIDS.

Also, roughly 200,000 people who didn't have medical insurance will now receive it. This will cost NIS 270 million.

Can I as health minister be a partner to the degradation of Israeli medicine? The answer is no. If I accept the principles of the Treasury, then I can't maintain reasonable and minimal care for the Israeli people.

This will mean no new treatment for cancer, no new antibiotic,



Health Minister Ephraim Sneh has his fingers in a few political pots.

(Issa Harari)

fewer open heart surgeries,

fewer hip replacements, fewer fetal screenings for pregnant women. We'll have to cut, cut, cut.

That's not my mission. I was hired to improve health care, not impair it.

Are health and social welfare issues a priority for this government? Can these issues make or

break the Labor Party in the next elections?

In the last two years, our government gained tremendous successes. There is a remarkable reduction in unemployment. We developed infrastructure. Tourism is flourishing. Investors are coming.

The trouble is that the people

on low income do not sufficiently enjoy these successes. We have to bring about a positive change in their life as well.

The issue we can't neglect is health care. I'm afraid if we reduce the quality of health care, those who have, can always buy good health care.

But those who don't will have to

accept second-class medical care.

How do you view the negotiations with Syria?

We have no reason to rush. Peace no doubt means territorial compromise. We have to be prepared for that. But we have to consider three basic terms, which I regard as red lines. One is defensible borders with Syria, including all the security arrangements. The second is to keep the water resources of Israel. The third is true normalization with Syria before any territory is given. Embassies are not normalization. It is an expression of diplomatic relations. You can have embassies and very bad relations. Air links are not normalization. You can cancel it with one phone call.

Some ministers in the cabinet keep saying that Assad has to convince the Israeli people of peace, as if the Israeli government is already convinced. The result was the Foreign Minister's speech at Sharm el-Sheikh. Do you share this view?

The interview of a-Sheikh and the signs of peace in Damascus are positive signs. But I can't be convinced just by gestures. They are important but I don't give one inch for gestures. Territory can be relinquished if the reality is changed, if the relations between Syria and Israel are changed substantially and not formally. Nobody can mislead me with words.

How do we ensure that peace with Syria, peace without the Golan Heights, won't change our strategic balance with Syria? Or is Israel prepared to end up with a much more powerful Syria?

One of my very basic demands here is that at the end of the agreement, the strategic balance between Israel and Syria cannot be worse than today.

If I can improve it, great. But if I can't, then it shouldn't be shifted to the advantage of the other side. No way. We can't afford it.

That's why peace with Syria should be designed and structured on such a basis that Israel is compensated for every strategic asset it gives up by something of strategic value that neutralizes the concession. If I give up assets on my side I want Syria to give up assets.

Foreign Minister Peres was quoted several weeks ago as saying that he used to think Israel had to rely only on itself. But now under certain circumstances he could live with foreign guarantees. Do you agree?

American support with equipment and technology might be a part of the strategic compensation required for Israeli withdrawal in the Golan. But it can't be a substitute. Technologies cannot serve as a substitute for defensible borders. When it comes to vital intelligence, I trust only what our people see and hear.

Are you getting a sense that your positions, which you are trying to insert in the party platform, are being heard in Labor today?

I have already received several hundred responses to my proposals for the Labor Party platform. People listen to my views and many in the party feel that it should emphasize again as being the party of security, as the party that bears the responsibility for the security of Israel. And, the party should be located at the center of the political map.

Let's talk about the Palestinians. Are you surprised by what's going on in the Palestinian Authority in terms of how they are carrying out their duties and imposing law and order? Are the Palestinians going backwards and moving away from us and toward the Third World?

I was always sure that the Palestinian people have a tremendous potential in economic issues, administration and education. I know Palestinians who could run an efficient government of their own. But you have a feeling these days that this potential is not being fully used. They can do it better if they used all of their human resources.

I am not the state comptroller of the Palestinians. But I want them very much to succeed and there is something I am afraid of that they will follow the Algerian model. It's frightening for me. It's a nightmare for them.

You mean a corrupt secular leadership challenged by an Islamic opposition?

There is a fundamentalist opposition that waits for the failure of the leadership. And I hope it doesn't fail.

Do you support the establishment of a Palestinian state in the near future and should this already be part of the public debate?

My proposals for the Labor Party platform deals with this question. If the interim arrangements prove successful, there is no doubt that the next stage would give the Palestinians a higher degree of sovereignty.

US Jewish conservatives find a scapegoat

It's Jew against Jew, as conservatives use their first conference to blame liberals for all America's ills, Hillel Kuttler reports

THE Orthodox rabbi starkly laid out the choice to those assembled here last week at the first conference of Jewish conservatives: "A vicious and cruel society, terrorized by predators who prowls the street, impoverished by an economy that is being ruined - that is what faces us in a secular world."

"Or," intoned Rabbi Daniel Lapin, founder of a group called Toward Tradition, which sponsored the conference, "a benign society that has returned to its Christian faith, that is not a theocracy, that is a society that graduates kids who know 'Thou shalt not.'"

To Lapin and many of the conference's 150 attendees, America is crumbling, and liberal policies are mostly to blame for everything from poor public schools to welfare to high taxes to crime.

Jewish liberalism is all the more perverse, they charge, because it misreads the Bible and results from Jews not being grounded in the true values of the religion.

Lapin told the crowd he is irked

by Jewish liberals who cite the biblical passage, "Love thy neighbor as thyself," as a rallying cry for social justice.

By failing to cite the conclusion of the passage, "I am the Lord," he charged, they are negating both the religious basis for ethics and, by extension, religion itself.

"The fact is, we need Jews who take their tradition seriously," film reviewer Michael Medved implored the audience.

"We need Jewish souls. We need Jewish energy. We need to save our people so that we can save our country."

Lapin and Medved in 1991 founded Toward Tradition as a conservative voice to break the hold they maintain liberals have on American Jewish discourse.

Last week's conference featured an all-star cast of American intellectuals and served as a coming-out party for their adherents, few of whom were identifiably Orthodox.

Some, in fact, were not even Jewish. Former judge and Supreme Court nominee Robert Bork said that "the fact it's a Jewish gathering didn't prevent me from being interested in it."

"You won't find much difference between what these conservative Jews are saying and what conservative Catholics are saying," Bork said.

Roy Innis, the black leader of the Congress of Racial Equality (CORE), expressed the hope that "maybe this movement will change the image of a monolithic, liberal view of blacks and Jews... and can, in fact inspire a similar movement developing in black America."

Innis said he is now forming a conservative organization, the National Institute for Traditional

Black Leadership, and envisions a "natural marriage" with Toward Tradition.

Lapin estimated that Toward Tradition, based on the West Coast, has up to 5,000 financial supporters. He predicted that more are likely to become affiliated after each of the seminars he hopes to stage across the country.

"I just believe this is a range of ideas that deserves a stall in the marketplace of ideas - and those who wish to buy will come and buy," the South African-born Lapin explained later.

"Our market is what seems to me to be an ever-growing proportion of the American Jewish community that is relieved to discover that not only is conservatism compatible with Judaism, but it probably owes Judaism its philosophical roots. Virtually all the major aspects of conservative doctrine are in accordance with Jewish tradition."

Toward Tradition's dogma is based on respect for religious adherence. The conference's program pointedly included the various prayer breaks and emphasized that each meal was kept kosher.

The group's appreciation for religion is not limited to Judaism. Lapin told the luncheon crowd that he and his wife decided to have each of their seven children delivered at a Catholic hospital near where they lived in Los Angeles, rather than at Cedars-Sinai Medical Center, a Jewish facility.

The fact that the Catholic hospital did not perform abortions made it likely that it offered more personal, compassionate care, they reasoned. The couple was not disappointed. Nor were they at all bothered by the wooden crucifix hanging over each bed.

ALONG WITH its liberal-bashing, the daylong event took several shots at the Anti-Defamation

League for producing a study this summer accusing the "religious right" of threatening tolerance and pluralism.

"By making common cause with political candidates solely on the basis of their pro-Israel positions, several speakers warned, Jews neglect allies with whose traditional values they have far more in common: fundamentalist Christians and evangelicals."

Indeed, the word Israel was hardly uttered throughout the day.

Although his organization was on the receiving end of Toward Tradition's vilification, Abe Foxman of the ADL welcomed a new partner in intra-Jewish dialogue. "I think the American Jewish community could, and has, room for liberals, moderates and conservatives," Foxman said by phone from New York. "We don't disagree there's a crisis in values. What we disagree on is for someone to come and determine what those values should be, what someone's theology should be."

At times, the conference seemed merely a rhetorical exercise, one that tore down the status quo without offering a vision. But participants maintained the event itself was vital.

"This is the time to set the agenda, not necessarily to look for solutions," said Rabbi Leonid Feldman, head of Temple Emanuel, a Conservative synagogue in Palm Beach, Florida.

"What you have here are a lot of lonely voices who've been ostracized by their community - totally secular people who became conservatives, and here, for the first time, say, 'It's okay to get together as Jews and as conservatives.'"

"The other side is the other way around: these are serious Jews who are confused. [Their] rabbis never spoke about conservative policies. It was assumed that if you voted for Reagan, something must be wrong with you, you must be evil."

Rabbi Mayer Schiller, a hassid from Monsey, New York, said: "The fact that Jews are doing it is encouraging; you gotta support them."

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EYE ON THE MEDIA

DAVID BARILLAN

DESPITE all protestations to the contrary, a state-owned television station is expected to give news a pro-government spin. Only the most naive believe that the BBC is independent of the British Foreign Office, or that Israel Television (ITV) pays no heed to what government ministers tell it.

But if last week's Farouk Shara interview is any indication, ITV must have forgotten that it is the Israeli government, not the Damascus regime, which it is expected to serve.

The fault was largely in the choice of interviewees — the station's Arab-affairs commentator, Elmad Ya'ari. It may well be that once the Syrians decided to accommodate American demands to make a gesture to Israeli public opinion, they chose Ya'ari on Egyptian advice. Ya'ari's obsequious performance when he last interviewed Hosni Mubarak (Eye on the Media, July 30, 1993) must have left a lasting impression.

The problem may be simply that Ya'ari is not a reporter but a commentator who would not recognize a pertinent, newsworthy question if he stepped on it.

Like most commentators, he is so full of himself, so eager to express opinions and glory in the occasion's importance, that he doesn't listen to answers, let

alone challenge them.

A typical example of his haughty was his assertion that not only Bill Clinton and Yitzhak Rabin believed that regional peace could not be attained without Syria's participation, but that he, too, believed so. The knowledge that this celebrated trinity is in agreement may make some viewers sleep better, but others may wonder why Ya'ari's opinion matters. Not even the ostensibly overpaid superstars of the American media, often far more famous than the politicians they interview, would dare interject their own opinions into an interview question.

Preoccupied with his own ego, Ya'ari failed to challenge statements by the Syrian which should have made even a novice reporter jump. With a straight, smiling face, Shara asserted that Syria had never shelled civilian Israeli targets, while Israeli shelled civilians "not only during wars but between wars." Even deputy foreign minister Yossi Beilin, who has honed his ability to diagnose spit as rain into a fine art, protested — albeit with due circumspection — against this "riling correction of history."

The fact, of course, is that none of Israel's enemies has specialized in targeting civilians more deliberately than the Syrians. A whole generation of Israelis in the Hula Valley and the Galilee panhandle

grew up in shelters from 1948 through 1967 because of incessant Syrian shelling of Israeli kibbutzim and towns.

Ya'ari also failed to notice that Shara not only blithely tossed off the antisemitic line about Israeli control of the world media (this column, dear reader, is merely a cover-up...), but questioned the legitimacy of Israel. "The Israelis think the Arab side is always the aggressor" (mistranslated as "oppressor" by ITV), "but this is true only in the media because of Israeli influence in the media. Israel was able to establish a state of its own in Palestine and it was at the expense of the Arabs and that was the first hostile act."

Any alert reporter would have pounced on this with, "Does this mean Israel is illegitimate? Do you believe it has a right to exist?" But Ya'ari was too busy thinking of his next question.

In the end, both anchorman Yisrael Segal and Ya'ari realized there was nothing new in what Shara had said, so they played up the "tone" of the interview. "Listen to the music, not the notes," said Segal, which recalled the musicians' joke about Wagner's mu-

sic. It's not as bad as it sounds. Both Ya'ari and Segal then repeated the same caveat twice.

Nor was the station bashful about screening — before, during and after the interview — the shot of Ya'ari shaking Shara's hand and telling him, "This is the first time you are sitting like this with an Israeli; for me [I] this is a very significant moment."

It was a climax of sorts: The first celebrated handshake was Rabin-Arafat, the second was Rabin-Husseini, the third — Ya'ari-Shara. That the Nobel committee has failed to consider Ya'ari for this year's prize is nothing short of shameful.

THE INTERVIEW, screened on Mabat only a couple of hours after it took place, was probably uncut. But by midnight, when the late news was broadcast, ITV must have realized that the impact of the Syrian gesture would be vitiated and its "music" spoiled if Shara's harsh "notes" were allowed to remain.

So only two sections of the interview were broadcast. In the first, Shara's explanation that any-

thing short of total withdrawal would not work because "the Syrian people would consider it a capitulation. They would not want peace under such conditions even if the government ordered it."

Here, too, the Hebrew translation was softened to "instructed it." It is, of course, comforting to know that the Syrian people — of whom 99.97% voted for Assad in the last election — don't always follow orders. But it does make one wonder why the idea that Israelis may consider a total withdrawal a capitulation never came up.

The second morsel was the part in which Shara promised that total withdrawal would ensure lasting peace not only in the Golan but in Lebanon. The Hizbullah, said Shara, would have no reason to continue its resistance to the occupation once the occupier were gone. This, too, was accepted unquestioningly by Ya'ari. Why spoil an historic moment with a question about the Hizbullah's pledge to keep "resisting" Israel until the Jewish state disappears, or about this open admission that Syria controls the Hizbullah?

True, the choice of only two points on the late news could be

rationalized by the brevity of the program. But no such excuse could be made for the choice of material on the following night on the extended Saturday night news-magazine *Seeing the World*.

Repeating the Ya'ari-Shara interview — partly for the benefit of those who watch no television on the Sabbath and partly because ITV wanted to give its "scoop" as much exposure as possible — the station simply cut out Shara's most offensive remarks. The section in which Shara claimed that Syria never shelled civilian targets disappeared. So did a crucial question about the nature of the peace Syria envisioned. Ya'ari asked if he and his wife could vacation in, say, Palmyra, when peace came. Shara refused to answer. No use talking about these things prematurely, he said. These are matters for negotiations.

(The competing Channel 2 would not take such a negative response for an answer. On the 5 p.m. news the next day, its newscaster stated that Shara had declared that Israelis could travel freely in Syria once a peace agreement was signed.)

An even more disturbing toying with facts occurred when the interview was first aired. Anchorman Segal asked Ya'ari if any limitations had been placed on the questions he could ask. "No, none at

all," he answered vehemently. But a report in the Hebrew daily *Ha'aretz* on Sunday specifically stated that the final arrangements for the interview, made on the preceding Wednesday, included an agreement with the Syrians on "questions that could not be presented to the Syrian foreign minister."

(*Ha'aretz* columnist Yoel Marcus, commenting on the obviously limited questions, wrote about the Syrian sitting motionless next to Shara throughout the interview who "suspiciously kept his hands under the table. For a moment I suspected that he was assigned the task of grabbing Ya'ari's pair of you-know-what to ensure that he would not ask Shara embarrassing questions.")

Why ITV agreed to a dictated interview and to cleaning up the results seems clear. The Syrian gesture, intended to influence the Israeli public, might boomerang. A foreign minister who dictates which questions he would tolerate, lies brazenly in public, and refuses to discuss what he means by peace can hardly impress Israelis as a paragon of trustworthiness.

But for Israel's state television to make Shara look good by editing and distorting the interview is to practice the kind of news manipulation one expects in Shara's homeland, not in Ya'ari's.

Oh, what a tangled web...

VIEW FROM NOV
MOISHE KOHN

THE BEILIN-Peres-Rabin government has succeeded nicely in sowing divisiveness, confusion and foolishness among the critics of their unilateral-surrender process.

This was cogently indicated by remarks of a few Golan hunger-strikers and some of their supporters when they ended their 19-day fast at Golan on September 29. They boasted, explicitly or by implication, how the fasters had impressed upon the public the distinction between the Golan *miluyashvim* — the ostensibly sane, classical, salt-of-the-earth settlers of the Zionist Labor Movement brand — and the Judea/Samaria/Gaza District *miluyashvim* — the purportedly fanatical, ideological, messianism-driven, skullcracked pseudo-settlers of the Gush Emunim variety.

The Israel Television media-crats, of course, eagerly repeated several times this terminology, defining the "ideological" Jew of Judea/Samaria/Gaza District as distinguished from the "pragmatic, security-minded" Jews of the Golan. In our "post-Zionist" era, belief in an idea, especially a Jewish idea, is held to be a mental aberration, if not a sin.

The efforts of those "sane settlers" to avoid being identified with the "fanatics" recalls a New York City joke of the 1930s. A left-wing May Day rally in Union Square had turned boisterous and the police began swinging their batons to disperse the demonstrators.

An innocent passerby caught up in the melee pleaded with a policeman: "What are you hitting me for? I'm an anti-Communist."

Said the cop: "I don't care what kind of Communist you are! Move out of here fast!"

When the showdown here comes, and come it will, our Arab foes will not care what kind of Zionists, Labor or anti-Labor, are sitting on "stolen Arab lands." They will not even ask whether we support or oppose "the peace."

Which brings me to one of the great Beilin-Peres-Rabin successes: persuading so much of the public that the process leading to and following the September 13, 1993, signing of the Declaration of Principles (DOP) and Peres-Arafat-Rabin handshaking on the White House lawn is a genuine, bilateral peace process, and that Jews — even "sane" Golanites — who have reservations about any aspect of it are "enemies of [the] peace."

A MORE recent bit of foolishness generated by the Beilin-Peres-Rabin process concerns the Prayer

for the Welfare of the State traditionally recited in all but the anti-Zionist synagogues on Shabbat and the other Jewish holy days.

The prayer invokes God's "light and truth upon [Israel's] leaders, ministers and counselors," and entreats Him to "impute them with wise counsel."

Rabbi Moshe Zvi Neria, initiator of the Bnei Akiva yeshiva network and one of the heads of the National Religious Party's Council of Rabbis, has replaced the above passage with one entreats God to "save [Israel] from its leaders, ministers and counselors."

Since DOP Day, a growing number of national religious synagogues and persons have stopped saying this prayer or have changed the wording to express feelings similar to Neria's.

On Rosh Hashana 5754/1993, four days after DOP Day, a woman in the synagogue I attend objected to the recitation of the prayer.

I suggested that precisely this government needs God's light and wise counsel.

She said: "But in the [Rosh Hashana/Yom Kippur] Amidah silent prayer you can't stop me from thinking of this government when I say, 'The righteous will ... rejoice ... and wickedness will vanish like smoke when You eliminate the malicious government from the world.'"

(That is a literal, simplistic translation; a better translation of that phrase is: "...the dominion of malice...")

Praying people should ask for wisdom for themselves, not only for their leaders.

"Prayer should be a way of listening rather than speaking to God," Rev. John Vrana of Cleveland said.

THIS PAST September 13, some people celebrated the DOP anniversary as marking the dawning of the era of messianic tranquility. On that very day our consul-general in New York, Colette Avital, published a festive anniversary op-ed article in the *New York Daily News* (which identified her as ambassador to the US).

Avital wrote, inter alia: "Unfortunately, terrorism is still active, though to a lesser degree than in the past."

The facts, unfortunately, are: Between DOP Day and its first anniversary, more Israelis were

killed and wounded by Arab terrorists than in any other year — 60, including 10 soldiers and one member of the General Security Service (in the previous year the respective figures were 41 and 24); 710 were wounded, of whom 430 were soldiers; 1,263 firebombs were thrown at Israeli targets (1,004 the previous year); 163 explosive devices (151); 88 grenades (64); 275 stabbings (same).

DR. SHLOMO COHEN, Tel Aviv attorney, Hebrew University law lecturer and an activist in the B'Tselem human-rights organization, complains that in my July 22 column I distorted the remarks he made at a meeting of the Israel Forum concerning Jewish and Arab casualty figures.

That version was supplied to me by Dr. Aaron Lerner of Ra'anana, director of IMRA/Independent Media Review and Analysis, who is a member of the Israel Forum and participated in that meeting.

Paraphrasing and summing up Cohen's remarks and what he considered to be their thrust, Lerner said Cohen had asserted that the Shamgar Commission Report on the February massacre in the Machpelah Cave "shows how bad the Jews of Judea/Samaria are. As proof he [Cohen] cited alleged figures on page 167 [of the report] showing that twice as many Palestinians were wounded by settlers as 'settlers' by Palestinians."

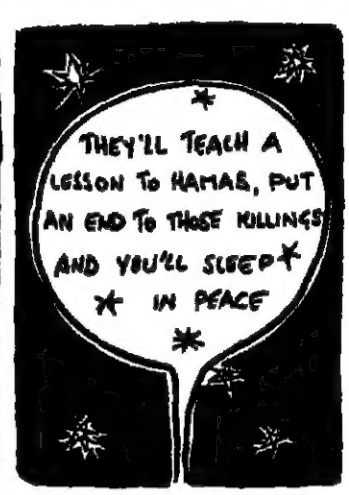
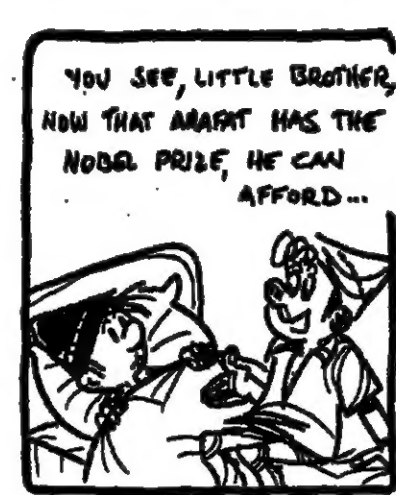
Cohen denies having said that, declaring: "I referred to attacks of Jewish settlers and Palestinians on each other. In recent years more Palestinians have been hurt by settlers than settlers by Palestinians." He quotes from the Shamgar Commission Report (page 167):

"Since the beginning of the uprising and until April 3, 1994, 64 Israelis were killed and 3,866 were wounded [from among the security forces and civilians]. During that same period 62 Arab inhabitants were killed by Israeli citizens [including those killed in the Machpelah Cave massacre] and 10,434 have been wounded."

Lerner notes that the three dots towards the end of this passage of the report cover Cohen's omission of: "...and 373 [Arabs killed] in acts by locals [that is, fellow Arabs in Judea/Samaria/Gaza District]..."

Moreover, because of that omission, significant in itself, the reader of Cohen's truncated quotation is unaware that the overwhelming majority of those 10,434 wounded were wounded by the Israeli security forces and by fellow Arabs, not by Jewish civilians.

BRULIK



Becoming a light that the nations can see

SHABBAT SHALOM

SHLOMO RISKIN

"And I will bless those that bless you, and he that curses you I will curse, and in you shall all the families of the earth be blessed." (Genesis 12:3)

A major sore point in modern Israeli society is the question of draft deferments for haredi students; it's a banner raised by secular Israelis to justify their antireligious attitudes. The tragedy is that until a spirit of recognition and respect exists between the extremes of society, the blessings destined for the families of the earth will have to wait.

The haredi claim is that the yeshiva students' Torah studies defer the nation at least as effectively as do soldiers on the battlefield. But how can a talimudic sing-song possibly oppose guns, tanks and missiles? And when we remember that our Bible does provide for war, and that the books of Joshua, Judges and Kings are filled with warring biblical heroes — to say nothing of the talimudic sages who were personally involved in the war against Rome — it is difficult to justify the haredi position.

Indeed, the Haredi yeshiva movement in Israel combines Torah study with any service, using Joshua and Rabbi Akiva as models.

Perhaps the key to understanding these different positions can be found in two interpretations of a verse in this week's portion of *Lech Lecha*.

In the beginning, God creates Adam and Eve, father and mother of humanity, but their children grow corrupt.

God destroys the world, and

tries again with Noah, but his children also grow corrupt. Finally, God decides to try one more time, picking a single individual whose descendants would become a people through whom "all the families of the earth shall be blessed." (Genesis 12:3)

Even before we know very much about Abraham, we know the purpose of his mission: He is to bring blessing to the entire world, and is to become "father of a multitude of nations" (*av hamon goyim*).

This is indeed our messianic vision: to change and perfect the world, establishing peace and morality under the Kingship of God.

But how is this ideal to be brought about? Unfortunately, since the exile began, the ability of Jews to create a vision and serve as a model for the nations seems to be severely limited. Still, when we read the *Codification of Law* by Maimonides, we find that his work begins by setting up the basic theological principles of Judaism (*hilchot yerodei haTorah*), and ends with laws preparing for the day when the seed of David, the anointed Messiah, will establish world peace (*hilchot melachim*).

For Maimonides, this transformation would occur through a natural evolution which includes ethical and religious repentance, as well as politics and wars. A political transformation within the order of reality must be brought about by living Jews in the real world, and is indeed the purpose of all the Torah's commands.

As the pages of Jewish history became more and more bloody, one of the last attempts to realize the larger vision emerged from the messianic desires of Shabbetai Zvi in the 17th century. But instead of introducing an age of universal peace, his tragic conversion to Islam left the Jewish world shattered, turned even more strongly inward, and convinced that world redemption belonged on a back burner.

One expression of this inwardness can be seen in the dramatic growth of the yeshiva movement, based on the teachings of Rabbi Haim of Volozhin, the leading disciple of the Gaon of Vilna, who created the mother of yeshivot — Volozhin — in the 18th century. For Rabbi Haim, the study of Torah is the ultimate task to which a person can devote his life. He, like the Gaon of Vilna before him, served as a living example of devotion to Torah study, and Volozhin attracted students from all over the world.

Since the Infinite is the source of all life, the study of Torah initiates a process by which infinity and finiteness are connected. Thus the idea developed that if the study of Torah would cease for one minute, the world would cease to exist.

Thus came about a unique, metaphysical interpretation of the Abrahamic blessing: Through the study of Torah, the world has the ability to exist and the possibility to become transformed. We need not deal with war or politics;

through learning alone we will bring about Redemption.

It's not surprising that in Rabbi Haim's world — where Jews had no power — the Torah scholar could feel that through his studies he was influencing the world on a profound, metaphysical level, despite the fact that on a physical level any Polish peasant could make his life miserable.

Today in Israel, when a yeshiva principal defends his students' right to deferment from the draft, he believes that because Torah is connected to the infinite, a yeshiva boy studying Torah is as important as a front-line soldier.

This idea is not mere rhetoric, but is at the very heart of his being. To him, the act of Torah study — even theoretical learning with no practical application — has the spiritual power to change worlds.

Nonetheless, what confronts us in 5755 (1994) is not the frail, powerless Jew of the ghetto, but a modern state in which the Jewish people is writing its own destiny. What seemed an impossible dream to Rabbi Haim of Volozhin is a miraculous reality today.

Of course Torah must be studied, and that study has real metaphysical value, but the essence of Torah is its practical application: "Great is Torah study which leads to proper action."

We must produce great Torah scholars, but at the same time demonstrate that Torah has a vital message in war as well as in peace, in economics as well as in succa building, in medical ethics as well as in Sabbath ritual, in the marketplace as well as in the study hall.

Shabbat Shalom

We can help young Israelis get an education

FUNDS

BEVERLEE BLACK

THE Forsake Me Not Fund and the Toy Fund are lagging way behind last year's receipts for this period. Neither has the Welcome Home Fund picked up any momentum.

We hope this is not a forecast for the rest of the campaign. Our goal is NIS 1,250,000.

We've initiated several new projects, like our scholarship program for young Israelis and an additional NIS 100,000 to the Jerusalem Herzog Memorial Hospital — Ezrat Nashim to help establish the Geriatric Urgent Care Center, the country's first emergency room for the elderly.

We appeal to our readers, not only to back our regular projects, but to enable us to take on these additional undertakings.

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Eilat looks forward to many 'hot' winters of tourism

Despite Eilat's high prices, tourists will prefer it to holiday sites in the area, hoteliers say. Haim Shapiro reports

A HARON Dekel, chairman of the Eilat Hotel Association, is concerned about the prospect of competing with neighboring Akaba, Jordan, and hotels in the southern Sinai, but believes his city can retain its place as the area's top tourist destination.

The way to compete, he says, is through increased development. There will always be some tourists who want to stay at a secluded hotel where they can lie on a quiet beach, he says, but most visitors want to be where the action is, and the action is in Eilat.

"If we want Eilat to remain the main city in the Red Sea area, we have to build more hotels and more shopping centers," he says.

Eilat is at a disadvantage with regard to prices, Dekel admits, mainly because a hotel worker in Jordan or Egypt makes \$70 to \$100 a month. A similar worker here costs an employer \$1,200 a month, including room and board.

He says, however, that tourists will pay more to stay in a place where there are more attractions, more restaurants and more shopping. The proximity of a modern hospital is something many travelers also consider when planning a vacation, he adds.

Visitors, he says, may take short trips to sites like Santa Katerina in Sinai and Petra in Jordan, just as they now make day or overnight trips to Jerusalem, but they will want to be based in Eilat.

Tours to Petra are already available for tourists in Eilat. An overnight tour, with a stay in a four-star hotel, is being marketed by Galilee Tours for \$195, not including the fee for a Jordanian visa,

which ranges from three dinars (about \$4.50) to 30 dinars.

RELI SLONIM, manager of the 421-room King Solomon's Palace Hotel, a part of the Isrotel chain, is convinced that the ease with which tourists can cross the border is a sign of stability that will attract more visitors to the area.

"There were those who had fears in the past, even though Eilat is isolated," he says.

Daniel Roger, marketing director for the Isrotel chain, which, with five hotels and some 1,600 rooms is the largest hotel company operating in Eilat, says his company has regular promotional seminars and workshops for travel agents.

Last week the chain hosted the Institute of Travel and Tourism, an organization of British travel industry leaders, at its new Royal Beach Hotel. The chain is concentrating its efforts on the non-Jewish market, which, he says, is where the greatest potential lies.

Roger notes that Eilat is hardly a mass-market destination in European terms. There are 2,000 seats a week on direct flights from the United Kingdom.

"That's small change, compared to Spain," Roger says.

David Bernas is manager of the Caesar Hotel, a 240-room four-star facility that has recently been totally renovated. He expects an occupancy of over 90 percent for the winter season. The competition, he says, is not necessarily from Jordan or Egypt, but other warm-weather destinations, such as Miami, Morocco, Tunisia, and the Canary Islands.

Eilat has a definite advantage in that it



More attractions, more restaurants and more shopping will keep the tourists coming, Eilat hoteliers say. (W. Brown)

is only four-and-a-half hours from Northern Europe and it has a constant climate with hardly any rainfall. Bernas says. Another attraction, he says, is the proximity of such tourist sites as Petra.

DEKEL SAYS the current massive construction of hotels and attractions in the city should be completed in about four years. That is when he expects competing destinations along the Red Sea coast to first begin their building projects.

By December, Dekel says, the Eilat Foreside Development Company is to open two new lagoons in the north beach area. One, near the Jordanian border, is for bathing and will increase the beach area by 1,200 meters. The other, for sports activities, is to be connected to the existing lagoon and is to have some 1,300 meters of waterfront.

By the end of 1995, the number of hotel rooms should be 6,500, 1,000 more than now. The number is set to increase

to 8,000 rooms by the end of 1997, and to 10,000 rooms by the year 2000.

Despite all the construction, the town actually looks less like a huge building site than it has in the past. The building is mainly in areas on the periphery of the present tourist area and builders are now required to enclose building sites with protective walls.

The number of tourists in the town is expected to keep pace with the building, Dekel says. Last year, there were

130,000 visitors in the October-to-May season; this year, some 170,000 are expected. Among the new charter companies planning regular weekly flights to Eilat are Airtours and Owners Abroad from the United Kingdom, and Jet Air from Belgium. Tjereborg, the giant Scandinavian travel company, which had pulled out of the Eilat market 15 years ago, is re-entering the scene.

There will be double the number of weekly flights from Holland, Belgium and Austria and, starting in November, a weekly direct charter flight from Moscow, with a capacity of about 190 passengers.

The winter season follows a summer in which — despite the much-publicized Israeli exodus to Turkey — Eilat was filled with locals on vacation. Roger said this was probably due to a change in local vacationing habits, with people simply taking more vacations, both at home and abroad.

THE HARD part, of course, is to keep the visitors happy, a job which must begin at the airport. Last week, Tourism Minister Uzi Baram appealed to his colleague, Transport Minister Yisrael Kessner, as well as to the police, to increase the number of police handling incoming passengers, both at Ben-Gurion Airport and especially at Uvda Airport, which handles nearly all Eilat charter flights.

According to Baram, only two or three of the 12 police posts at Uvda are operating, forcing tourists to wait up to two or three hours for passport checks.

Dekel, however, does not favor using Akaba Airport as a joint undertaking with Jordan.

"I don't want to have to depend on Jordan, or Egypt, for an airport, although I don't mind if they depend on us. I want to have the best slots [for take-off and landing times] and in Europe I want to see Eilat up there on the list of destinations, and not Akaba," Dekel says.

IBM shines Apple for joint venture

The two companies believe they can beat out the competition by joining forces, analysts say. Elizabeth Corcoran reports

LIKE high-tech soap stars, IBM and Apple have been clinching provocatively close together, setting off chatter across networks from Silicon Valley to Wall Street.

The two companies may be within a few weeks of announcing a plan for a joint line of computers, industry experts say.

The machines would run software designed for Apple Computer Inc.'s Macintosh computers, as well as programs written to work with International Business Machines Corporation's homegrown "operating system" software known as OS/2.

The common machines may be only one part of a strategy that the two companies hope will help them snatch customers away from the computer industry's dynamic duo, Microsoft Corp. and Intel Corp., whose software and microprocessors form the core of most personal computers.

"Competing with Microsoft is brutal," said Bill Bluestein, a senior analyst with Forrester Research in Cambridge, Massachusetts. Even so, "it seems that IBM and Apple are trying to slay Microsoft and Intel in one stroke." "I think they both see it's in their mutual self-interest to come out together rather than remain in this more proprietary mode or going it alone," said Richard Zwetckebatum, an analyst with International Data Corporation, a research firm in Framingham, Massachusetts.

In an on-again, off-again romance, IBM and Apple have collaborated on projects since 1991. The two have worked with Motorola Inc. to design a powerful family of microprocessors, called the PowerPC chips.

Apple then built a fleet of computers called the Power Mac machines around this chip. IBM turned out a family of sophisticated workstations based on the new processor.

IBM has continued to strengthen its personal computer operating system, OS/2, which controls the basic functions of a computer. But the company has lagged in building a related personal computer based on the PowerPC chip.

Apple and IBM both hope that by offering machines that run a wider variety of software, their systems will have broader appeal to both customers and software developers.

Last November, IBM said it was working on a design for a machine that would run IBM's OS/2 operating system, Microsoft's Windows NT operating system, and so-called UNIX systems.

More recently, IBM officials have negotiated with their Apple counterparts to find ways to broaden this model so it would also run Apple's operating system, Mac OS, according to industry sources.

The technical issues are tricky but not impossible, say those close to the companies. "The big issues are how IBM and Apple wind up promoting themselves, and to what degree they cooperate and compete," said Mark Stahlman, a computer industry consultant at New Media Associates in New York.

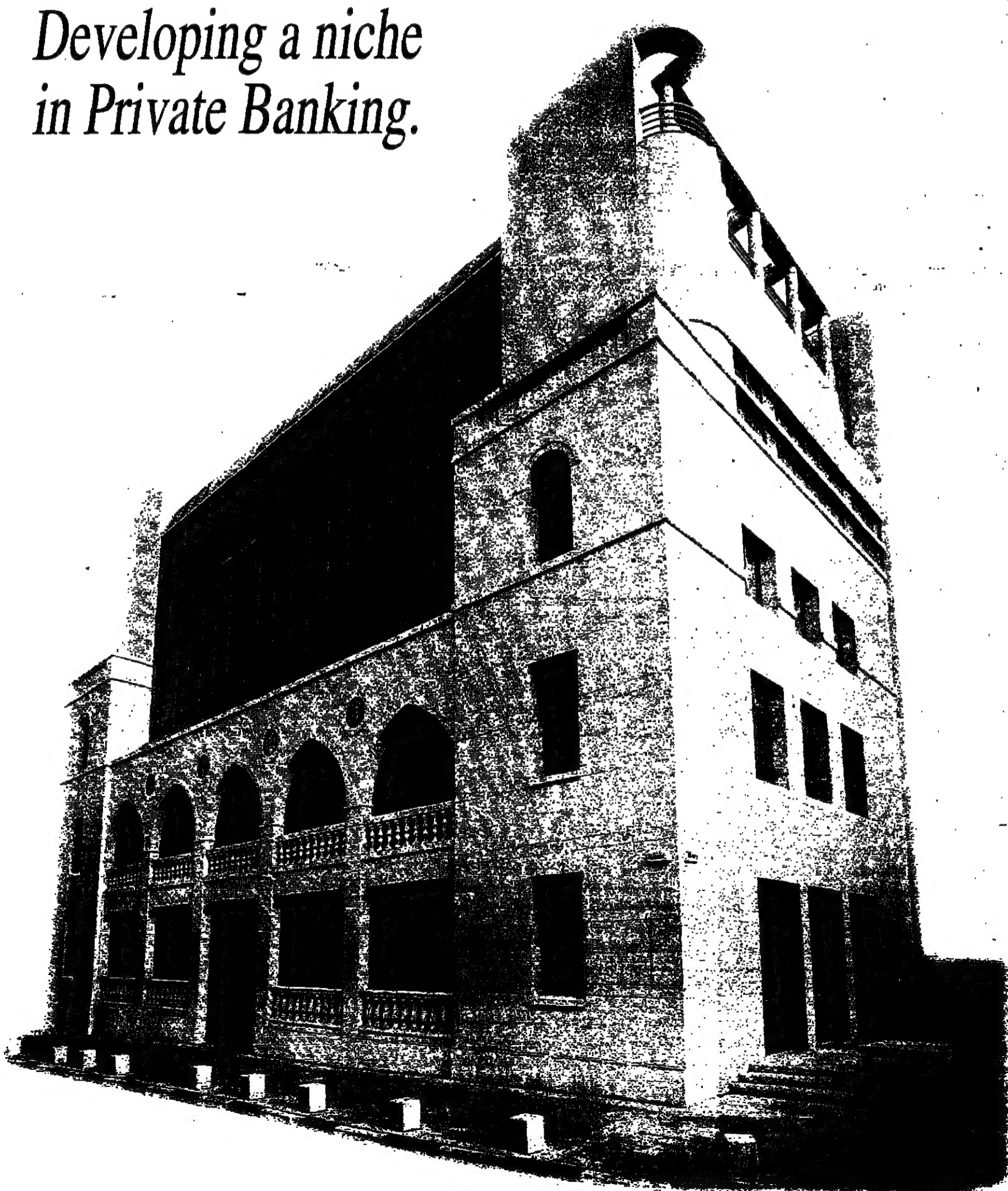
One scenario, suggest some, might look like this: IBM and Apple agree on the specifications for a computer that can run both their operating systems. Yet those machines might not be ready for sale until 1996, so IBM might also license the rights to make clones of Apple's Power Mac machines.

Both companies could then target their sales efforts on specific market niches, in hopes of unseating Microsoft and Intel.

Neither Apple nor IBM representatives would comment on reports that East Coast-based IBM might take an equity stake in its California-based partner.

Even so, speculation about whether IBM, Motorola, or even AT&T Corp. might try to buy some part of Apple, has boosted the company's stock in the past week. The stock stands at about \$38, after its highest level since mid-March. Last October, the company's stock was languishing at less than \$24.

"Everything is probable and improbable," said Andrew Neff, an analyst with Bear Stearns in New York. As in any performance, the actors' timing will mean everything. (The Washington Post)



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THE JERUSALEM
POST

Russian breakfast

CHESS
NIGEL DAVIES

THE most common language on the local chess scene is not Hebrew but Russian. Most of the top players came here from the former Soviet Union.

It's funny how you get used to it. So much so that during the Lloyds Bank Masters tournament in London in August, I chose to eat breakfast surrounded by Russian-speakers, even though the breakfast room was dominated by the sound of English; my mother tongue.

Occasionally Lev Psakhis or his wife would translate a part of the conversation for me, though I was sure I was missing the best stuff. I did find one item quite amazing.

The super-tournament in Novgorod was being played then, and the games were arousing great interest, particularly from the point of view of opening theory. After seeing Garry Kasparov's brilliant win over Evgeny Barceev, the strongest member of the breakfast group, Alexander Chernin, remarked simply: "They found it."

He was commenting on Kasparov's counter to a topical opening idea in the Slav, 1.d4 d5 2.c4 c5 3.Nf3 Nf6 4.Nc3 dxc4 5.a4 Bf5 6.e3 e6 7.Bxc4 Bb4 8.0-0 Nbd7 9.Qe2 and now the recently discovered 9...Bg4. Chernin had wanted to adopt this move himself. But now that everything would become common knowledge, adopting 9...Bg4 would simply be too risky.

This is the extent to which modern theory has developed. Chess isn't so much a game these days as an arms race.

Kasparov, G. - Barceev, E.
Slav Defense

1.d4 d5 2.c4 c5 3.Nf3 Nf6 4.Nc3 dxc4 5.a4 Bf5 6.e3 e6 7.Bxc4 Bb4 8.0-0 Nbd7 9.Qe2 Bg4 10.h3 Bxh3 11.Qxd3 0-0 12.Rd1 Qa5 13.e4!

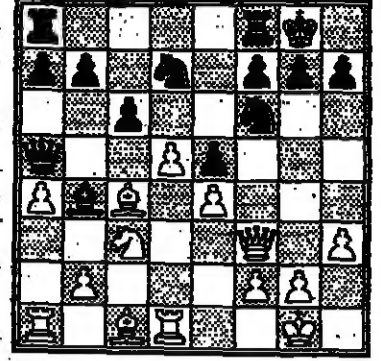
The start of Kasparov's powerful new plan, which involves some very dynamic follow-up. In the first big-time encounter with this line, Belyavsky - Ivanchuk from this year's Linares tournament, the passive 13 Bf1 was played and after 13...Rf8 14.g4 Rg8 15.Bg2 Nd5 16.Ne4 e5 17.Ng5 Nf6 18.h4 Re8 White's kingside gestures were looking very artificial.

In a subsequent Belyavsky - Ivanchuk game in Munich, Alexander Belyavsky evidently had some improvement in mind, given that he copied the Linares game until move 12. Perhaps Vasily Ivanchuk was also aware of an improvement, given that he was the first to deviate with 12...Re8.

He had a very comfortable position after 13 Ne4 Nxe4 14 Qxe4 Qd5 15 Qc2 Nf6 16 Bd3 g6 17 e4 Rf8 18 Be2 h5 19 Be3 c5, but doubtless he would have found it more difficult had Kasparov

been playing White.

Sharply defining the character of the struggle by setting up a passed pawn. I'm not sure that I like Black's next move very much as it puts Black's queen in an awkward position.



14...Nb6 15.Bb3 Bxc3 16.Bxc3 cxd5 17.exd5 Rxc8 18.c4 Rfe8

After 18...Nxc4 19.d6 the pawn is becoming a monster.

We now see an interesting struggle between knights attempting to blockade and bishops itching to break free. It is Kasparov who achieves his aim with the aid of a beautifully judged double-pawn sacrifice.

19.Bd2 Qa6 20.d6 Nbd7 21.Be3 Re6 22.a5!

Giving up the pride of his position.

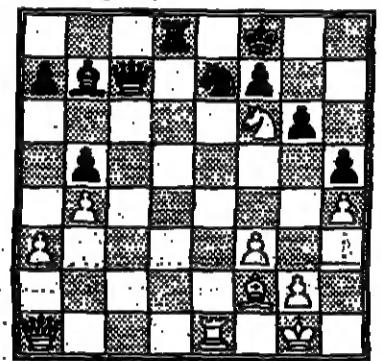
22...Rxd6 23.Ba4 Rxd1+ 24.Rxd1 Rb8 25.c5 h6 26.Qf5 g6 27.Qc2 Qa5 28.Rd6! Kg7 29.Qd1

Leaving Black completely tied up, Kasparov decides matters by softening up Black's kingside with his h-pawn.

29...Qc7 30.h4 Kh8 31.h5 g5 32.Qf3 Kg7 33.Qf5 b6 34.Bxd7 Nxd7 35.Bxg5! 1-0

A spectacular end to a truly remarkable game. After 35...hxg5 36.Qxg5+ Kh8 37.b6 followed by 38.h7 is a cruel way to end Black's resistance.

THIS WEEK'S problem is from a game won by Tigran Petrosian playing White against John Nunn in 1977. White to play and win (see diagram).



Solution: White put the ball in the net with 1.Nxh5! gxf5 2.Qh8+ Ng8 3.Bc5+ Rd6 4.Qe5! 1-0



The Egyptian vulture uses its slender bill to pick off scraps of flesh from bones. (Jacob Katz)

A very cultured vulture

BEAUTY is not usually a word we associate with vultures, but the Egyptian vulture (*Neophron percnopterus*) is actually a strikingly attractive bird. The sight of this black and white bird, with its long pink legs and yellow bill, against the backdrop of a blue sky is particularly impressive.

Egyptian vultures are seen throughout Israel during summer, and sometimes also in winter in the Negev. Most, however, spend their winters in Egypt and other parts of North Africa. They arrive here as early as mid-February and nest in cliffs.

In a makeshift nest, the female lays two eggs towards the end of March or during April. The eggs are incubated by both parents and the chicks hatch after 40 to 42 days. The period of parental care is long and the chicks, though feathered after about 40 days, do not leave the nest until they are 70 to 80 days old. During this period, both parents feed the chicks on bits of carrion and other prey.

The long, slender bill of the Egyptian vulture is designed for picking off scraps of flesh from

NATURE
D'VORA BEN SHAUL

bones. But they also prey on slow moving animals, especially turtles. To acquire this delicacy, they pick up the turtle in their talons, carry it aloft and then drop it onto rocks from a height so that the carapace breaks and the meat is accessible.

They use the same system to break open eggs. Naturalist Uzi Paz reports that on one occasion an Egyptian vulture was observed trying in vain to crack a tennis ball by repeatedly dropping it onto rocks below. It has been speculated that, when there were still ostriches in the Negev, the Egyptian vulture employed this technique on their eggs. This unusual method for acquiring food is also used by the bearded vulture.

Most of the Egyptian vultures that migrate through Israel in the fall pass east of the Jordan, but some will be spotted here.

During the spring migration, when the birds return from Africa, and particularly from mid March until the end of April, they

are a frequent sight.

OUTSIDE the breeding season, Egyptian vultures are gregarious birds and it is common to see large flocks of them feeding together on carrion, or even on garbage tips. At one spectacular colony near Sede Boker in the central Negev, as many as 180 Egyptian vultures have been seen together.

There used to be far more colonies in Israel. In fact at one time Egyptian vultures were seen nesting on every rocky ledge available. But chain reactions from agricultural poisoning in the '50s and '60s have decimated their populations and it is only in the last 15 years that their numbers have grown once again.

This season's work: Enrich the soil, sow

GARDENING
INEZ KLIMIST

BACK in the US, where I got most of my gardening experience, September and October were the months when all I did was rake leaves and put down mulches for the winter. It was a time when we in Michigan were all putting our gardens to sleep for a season.

However, here, even in the mountainous regions, we never really say good-bye to our gardens, as there always seems to be something we can do.

In October, when the extreme heat turns to the milder temperatures of autumn, we fork over and enrich the soil for next year's growth and start our sowing.

Some of our seeds must be planted in hot frames with protection against the worst of the winter weather, to be transplanted later (flax, love-in-a-mist, marigold, phlox, snapdragons). Others may be planted directly in the soil and left to fend for themselves (sweet peas, lupins, nasturtiums, poppies).

Cuttings from oleanders, figs, pomegranates, privet, rosemary, fuchsia and other shrubs are best started now so that they will be strong and well rooted for planting in the spring.

Herbs and vegetables should also be sown now, so they will be established enough to winter over in the garden. This is also the time to prepare for the planting of spring-blooming bulbs.

Opinion is divided on the subject of forking and digging up gardens in the fall. Some gardeners never do it. They leave Nature to her own devices and feel they are disturbing the earth if they cultivate the soil.

I live in an area where there are large, old trees with roots that tend to crowd my flowers and take up too much of the water and nutrients. For that reason, I do quite a lot of deeper cultivating.

There is no ironclad rule. In any case, add some manure, compost and bone meal (if you can get it) and at least rake it in lightly, for a better garden next season.

If you intend to plant some spring-blooming bulbs (tulips,

anemones, daffodils, narcissi, hyacinths, crocus, snowdrops, scilla, etc.), buy them now. Put them into a paper or mesh sack and refrigerate them for a month to six weeks to simulate the cold they need.

Freesias need not be refrigerated and can be planted now. Gladioli are planted in spring in Europe and North America, but summer in Israel is too hot for them to bloom successfully, so we plant these bulbs in the fall to bloom in March and April.

In Hebrew they are called *safyan* and grow wild in the hills around Jerusalem during the spring. Many of these spring flowers can be found in a wild form, growing all around the country before the really hot weather begins.

One of the many interesting bulbs that grow wild around the hilly regions is the Jerusalem anemone. It is a protected flower, but I found some in my garden.

There are many types of arum lilies in the nurseries, but I've never seen this one. It is called *match Aharon* in Hebrew (Aaron's staff). The flower is very dark maroon, almost black. The plant likes shady places and rich soil, and grows to 30-35 centimeters.

It must be left in the ground for the leaves to die naturally before it can be dug up and moved (like other bulbs). The flower has a strange - almost unearthly - look, and curls around a large stamen.

German iris may be planted now. Dr. Michael Avishai, who is in charge of the wonderful Botanical Gardens at the Givat Ram campus of the Hebrew University, has succeeded in collecting the largest group of native wild iris (protected) in the country.

The cultivated varieties are available in nurseries. They need little attention to grow and bloom year after year. They thrive best in well-drained, sunny spots, protected from strong wind.

Plant them shallow, no more than 5 cm. deep, and give them plenty of space to spread out between plants; some 20-25 cm. will not be too much. They will need thinning in only a few years.

Tel Avivians take world title

BRIDGE
MATTHEW GRANOVETTER

North dealer
North-South vulnerable

North	South
AKQJ7	10932
107	A932
-	1032
-	A3
QJ9765	
West	East
86	54
KQJ86	54
AQK54	19876
K	10842

Closed Room	Stansby	Zmudinski	Martel	Balicki
West	1 pass	2 pass	2 pass	2 pass
2NT	5 pass	5 pass	5 pass	5 pass
5	5 pass	5 pass	5 pass	5 pass
6	double	double	double	double

Open Room	Lasocki	Rosenberg	Gawrys	Bates
West	2 pass	2 pass	2 pass	2 pass
2	2 pass	2 pass	2 pass	2 pass
7	7 pass	7 pass	7 pass	7 pass
7	double	double	double	double

AMERICAN and Polish players dominated the winner's circle in last month's world championships in Albuquerque, New Mexico, while two seniors from Tel Aviv became Israel's first world bridge champions.

Israelis did quite well: the team of Shaya Levitt and Danny Cohen of Tel Aviv, and Avi Kalish and Leonid Podgor of Haifa, reached the semifinals of the open teams; Daniela Birman, Magri Tzur, Ruthie Porat and Ronnie Barr reached the quarterfinals of the women's teams; Tzur and Porat also took sixth place in the women's pairs. The Herbst brothers, Elon and Ofir from Haifa, were sixth in the open pairs.

The best Israeli performance was in the senior teams. Moshe Katz and Nissan Rand of Tel Aviv were part of an international squad that took first place, thereby becoming our first world bridge champions.

Here is a list of winners and runners-up in the main events: McConnell Teams (women only): 1. Judi Radin, Rosanne Pollack, Sue Picus, Marisela Letizia, Jill Shane (US)

2. Sally Woolsey, Dori Cohen, Jo Anne Casen, Karen Allison,

Joann Glaspon, Jo Ann Manfield (US)

Open Pairs:

1. Marcin Lasniewski and Marek Szymonowski (Poland)

2. Bob Hamman and Michael Rosenberg (US)

Women's Pairs:

1. Carla Arnold and Bep Vriend (Netherlands)

2. Veronique Bessis and Catherine Sul (France)

Mixed Pairs:

1. Danuta Hoceker and Apollina Kowalski (Poland)

2. Bob Hamman and Sabine Zenkel (US/Germany)

Rosenblum Teams:

1. Seymour Deutsch, Gaylor Kasie, Roger Bates, Michael Rosenberg, Lew Stansby and Chip Martel (US)

2. Adam Zmudinski, Cesare Balicki, Krzysztof Lasocki, Piotr Gawrys, Erwin Orvosi and Marek Borewicz (Poland)

Senior Pairs:

1. Fred Hamilton and Hamish Bennett (US)

2. Simon Kantar and Murray Melton (US)

Senior Teams:

1. Moshe Katz and Nissan Rand (Israel), Karl Rohan and Franz Baratta (Austria), Kees and Bob Kaiser (Netherlands)

2. Billy Eisenberg, Fred Hamilton, Tom Sanders, Russ Arnold, Zeke Jabbar and Mike Levine (US)

THIS WEEK'S deal comes from the last quarter of the open team final. The Americans were losing by a small margin to the Poles

going into the last 16 boards, but emerged victorious when Roger Bates made a good decision in the bidding.

In the Closed Room, Lew Stansby (West) lost the obvious four tricks in his small slam sacrifice, for minus 500. This was a well-judged save, because five-spades is cold, North-South, and would have scored 650. East-West's conventional two-notrump bid by West was the key to success.

The bid showed hearts and a minor, rather than the more traditional meaning of both minors. This allowed East to bid five clubs, which meant he was prepared to play in either minor.

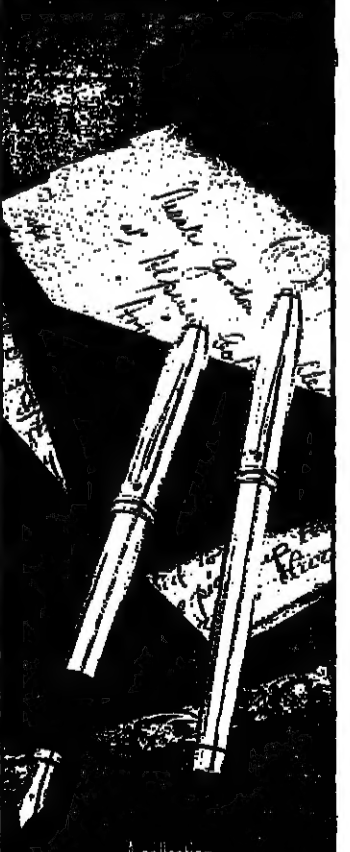
In the Open Room, the one-club opening and one-heart response changed the whole tempo of the auction. Six spades probably would have made, because East had no reason to lead a heart, and declarer can use the club suit to discard hearts from the South hand, eventually ruffing a losing heart there.

Over the bid of seven diamonds, a rare grand-slam sacrifice, Michael Rosenberg (North) gave the American rooters a nervous moment when he passed, inviting South to bid a grand slam in spades, but Bates (South) eventually doubled, a decision based on his sound rubber bridge training.

The money-bridge philosophy of "take the sure profit" resulted in an 800 penalty and a 7-imp gain for the American team. Had Bates bid seven spades, there's no doubt that North would have gone down one, attempting the club finesse and losing 5 West's singleton king.

For Bates's wise decision, he earned himself a world title.

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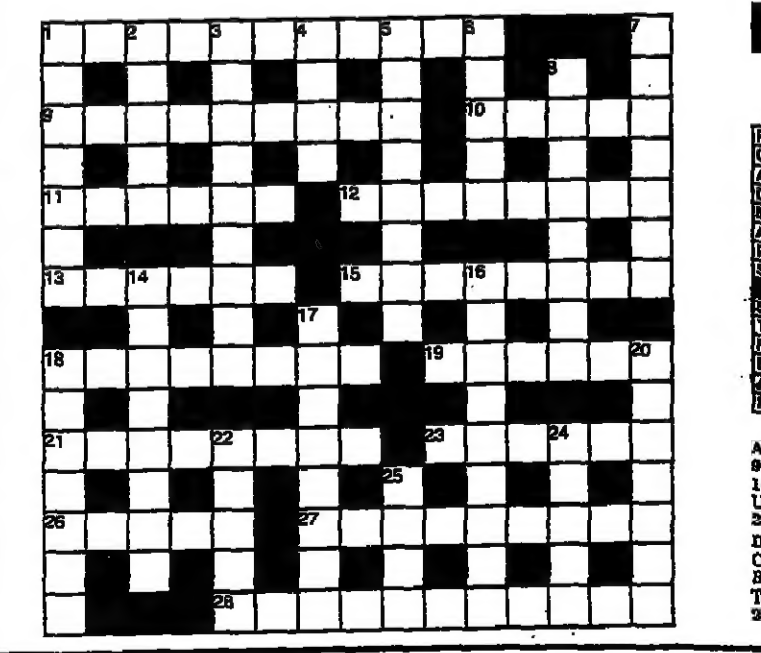


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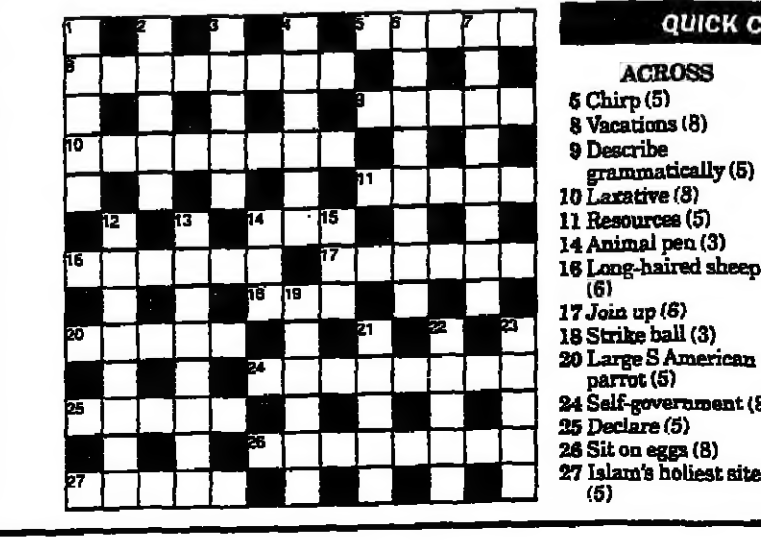
- ACROSS
- 1 Be good enough to give policemen hearty meals (4,3,4)
- 9 Conservative old schoolmaster comes from good stock (4,5)
- 10 A couple I left in springtime (5)
- 11 Midshipman's joint (6)
- 12 The best part of a holiday in the mountains (4,4)
- 13 Use typical measure and manoeuvre (6)
- 15 Stay on the move, or else become fat (3,5)
- 18 Apply protective cosmetics to maintain self-esteem (4,4)
- 19 An unmotivated flier? (6)
- 21 Capital needed to refurbish regal bed (8)
- 23 String of beads by the beach (6)
- 26 Shackles the star of 'The Mission' (5)
- 27 To give further details is complicated (9)
- 28 So had no need, anyhow, to give assent (3,4,4)
- DOWN
- 1 Iron-clad barge designed by a famous jeweller (7)
- 2 See purposes in a parasitic insect (5)
- 3 Rebuked for having marked all the boxes (8,3)
- 4 Islamic leader appears as the hoar-frost returns (4)
- 5 Took a deep breath when filled with creative energy (8)
- 6 Tether for the French tree (5)
- 7 Dead in bed, and none too soon (7)
- 8 Put forward the case against the kilo? (8)
- 14 Quietly takes a new violin from the summer-house (8)
- 16 Dealings accounts (9)
- 17 A high-ranking detective in need of LSD (4-4)
- 18 It's heavenly under the linden tree (7)
- 20 Communists clearly have the edge in producing paint pigment (3,4)
- 22 An extract of pine? Wrong again! (5)
- 24 A barrier built of stone (5)
- 25 A young animal to show much affection (4)



SOLUTIONS

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A S S E S S E M B L Y
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T R A P C A T S O I T
R S W N S P O E
E N R A N C E C O M E
A E S S E S T O
K I N G D O M A R C H E

Yesterday's Quick Solution:
ACROSS: 1 Factor, 4 React, 8 Round, 9 Opulent, 10 Against, 11 Idle, 12 Hug, 14 Dear, 15 Ugly, 18 Yet, 21 Ever, 23 Uplight, 26 Perch, 28 True, 27 Berie, 28 Intend.
DOWN: 1 Formal, 2 Courage, 3 Ordinary, 4 Ruse, 5 Ahead, 6 Tether, 7 Booth, 9 Guerdian, 16 Luggage, 17 Temple, 19 Tubby, 20 Astend, 22 Error, 24 Ruse.



- ACROSS
- 5 Chirp (5)
- 8 Vacations (8)
- 9 Describe grammatically (6)
- 10 Lavative (8)
- 11 Resources (5)
- 14 Animal pen (3)
- 16 Long-haired sheep (6)
- 17 Join up (6)
- 18 Strike ball (3)
- 20 Large S American parrot (5)
- 24 Self-government (8)
- 25 Declare (5)
- 26 Sit on eggs (8)
- 27 Islam's holiest site (6)
- DOWN
- 1 Multitude of fish (5)
- 2 Foreigner (5)
- 3 Let in (5)
- 4 Young swan (6)
- 6 Celestial (8)
- 7 Simplicity (8)
- 12 Witty retorts (8)
- 13 Pedantically instructive (8)
- 14 Weep (3)
- 15 Nevertheless (3)
- 19 Ex-pupils (6)
- 21 Counterfeit (5)
- 22 Grinding tooth (5)
- 23 God of marriage (5)

Arab village wants a slice of the peace tourism pie

A plan would turn Abu Ghosh, already a choice lunching spot near Jerusalem, into a place for visitors to stay, Haim Shapiro writes

UNTIL a century or so ago, the residents of Abu Ghosh made their living by imposing a toll on travelers to Jerusalem. These days they hope to again derive an income from travelers, albeit in a less coercive manner.

The village, about a dozen kilometers west of the capital on the main highway, is the sort of place that would rate one or two stars in one of the classic European guidebooks: a place where tourists go to enjoy the atmosphere rather than for heavy sightseeing. On Shabbat it is filled with Israelis, who come there for lunch.

"We have five excellent restaurants, but there are as many people turned away as those who eat here," says Zion Hadar, head of the Abu Ghosh local council. Hadar explains that he was appointed by then-interior minister Aryeh Deri to head the local council when the village, which now has 5,000 residents, was made an independent community two years ago. By law the first local council is appointed by the minister.

Abdullah Sadat owns the Florida Restaurant, one of the five which line the road off the Jerusalem-Tel Aviv highway. He and his family built the restaurant themselves, he says.

"I see lots of tourists come to the village. I want them to come not just to eat, but also to stay," says Sadat.

Among the tourist projects planned for the village is a five-star hotel with more than 200 rooms, a series of local guest houses with at least 50 rooms, and a Middle Eastern market in the refurbished center of the village. Hadar says the market would



Brother Olivier leads a tour group outside Abu Ghosh's Benedictine monastery (left) as the Arab village near Jerusalem (right) embarks on a number of tourist projects. (Ariel Jerozolimski)



serve as an alternative to that of Jerusalem's Old City, which Israelis have been reluctant to visit since the intifada began.

THERE IS no question that many Israelis do feel more comfortable in Abu Ghosh than in the Old City. Not only has the village been a part of Israel since 1948, its residents have long had friendly relations with the nearby kibbutzim. Kiryat Anavim and Ma'aleh Hahamisha. Many of its residents cooperated with the Hagana and IZL.

Historically, the village is identified as the site of the biblical Kiryat Ye'arim, where the Ark of the Law rested. A convent on a hill overlooking the village commemorates this. The Crusaders identified it with the New Testa-

ment site of Emmaus, and built a monastery there in the 12th century. Although abandoned, the church remained intact and was thus preserved when it was reopened as a Benedictine Monastery under the aegis of the French government close to a century ago.

Hadar envisions a future in which visitors will not just come for a meal and a brief tour of one or both of the churches, but will also spend several hours in the village. There are already two annual music festivals, at Succot and Shavuot, when thousands of people come for the concerts, held in both churches.

However, he sees the market, in the center of the village, as a focal point for visitors and local residents alike. In addition to the usu-

al souvenirs, he says, the market will sell local craft items, including woven cloth, rugs and clothing, and spices and agricultural goods, with an emphasis on organic products. The art works of the local monks and nuns, in stone, ceramic and wood, are also to be sold there.

The entire development project for the center of the village is to cost some NIS 21 million, to be derived from the Tourism Ministry, the local council and private investors.

EVEN BEFORE the hotel is built, Hadar says, visitors could be staying in guest rooms in various homes in the village. Many of the older, more picturesque homes are quite large and often unoccupied, he says. So far, five families,

who together have over 50 rooms, are to receive professional help in transforming the buildings into facilities suitable for visitors. The total cost for this work, some of which is to be paid by the families, is estimated at \$1.3 million.

The hotel, Hadar says, is to be built on an area of some 20 dunams on a hill overlooking the village. Its style of architecture, he says, would have to match the character of the village. Part of the land on which it is to be built is state land, while the rest belongs to villagers, who would give it to the project as their part of the investment. The major part of the investment, estimated at \$12 million, would come from the outside, with the government providing part of the money as a loan.

Hadar says that in theory, the

government has decided to speed up the approval process for hotels and other tourist facilities, but that in practice these procedures still take considerable time. He foresees at least three years before the hotel opens its doors. When it does, he says, it will be a five-star facility, probably run under contract from an international chain.

Abdullah Sadat is convinced that whoever runs the hotel, there will be plenty of trained hotel personnel to work there. Before he opened his restaurant, he himself had worked at the King David Hotel in Jerusalem, the Tel Aviv and Jerusalem Hiltons, the Sharon Hotel in Herzliya, and the Dan Hotel in Tel Aviv. His son Ramsi worked in the Munich Hilton.

Sadat would like to see a small hotel of some 40 or 50 rooms over

his restaurant. He says that visitors to Abu Ghosh could include not just westerners and Christian pilgrims, as Hadar suggests, but also tourists from Arab countries.

"I see [the hotels in] Ma'aleh Hahamisha and Kiryat Anavim and I ask why there are only hotels in the kibbutzim, and not in the Arab village," he says.

Just as he and his family worked hard to build the restaurant, he says, the residents of Abu Ghosh will have to work hard if they want to attract visitors to their village.

"We weren't born with money. It is our luck that we have our lands. But if we won't help ourselves, nobody will, not the tourism minister, not the prime minister," he says.

There's no opposition on this issue: This baby is a first

GRAPEVINE

GREER FAY CASHMAN

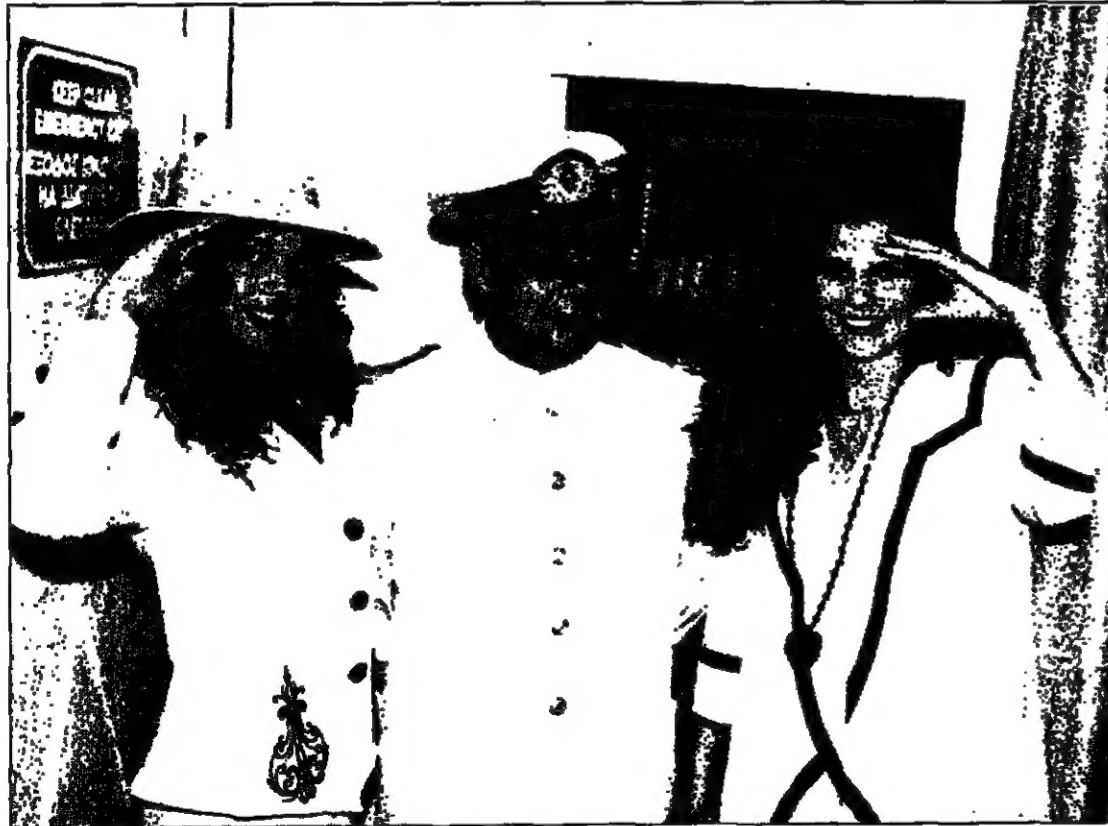
THE youngest member of the Netanyahu clan, born this week to Likud chairman Benjamin Netanyahu and his wife, Sara, is unique. He is the first child born to a leader of the opposition in over four decades.

POPULAR RADIO broadcaster Yossi Sias became a father for the third time. Rather than leave his wife Yael and daughter Ohav, Sias relayed his late-night program on Sunday from the maternity ward of Hadassah-University Hospital, Ein Kerem.

GORGEOUSLY DRESSED and coiffed women greatly outnumbered equally well-groomed men at the party thrown by matchmaker extraordinaire Helena Amram to launch her new singles club at the northern tip of Tel Aviv's Dizengoff Street. Amram, who was also celebrating her birthday, was dressed as a bride, but not in her original wedding finery, which she conceded no longer fits her. The champagne flowed freely but guests paid for other drinks, though few at the see-and-be-seen event seemed to mind. Amram serenely distributed copies of her book *I Got a Match for You*, released here by Keter.

"IT'S A labor of love," says filmmaker Yael Roe, referring to the documentary he's making on the life of Teddy Kollek. New York-based Roe, who with his wife, Anita, commutes frequently to Jerusalem, has been absorbed in the project for a year and still has four months of work. The production features interviews with many close to Kollek and its focus is more the man and the Zionist than on the former mayor.

FRIENDS OF Rambam Hospital's Pain Relief Clinic, including Philipines Ambassador Rosalinda de Perio-Santos, came from all over the country to Haifa Port to attend a fundraiser on board the luxury cruiser *M/V Atlante*. Owner Michael Anastasiadis and his wife, Rita, pledged to make the vessel available annually for this cause. Highlight of the gala event arranged by clinic secretary Esther Dubrovsky was an extravagant fashion show featuring the magnificent suits and evening creations of French haute couture designer Helena Gainville, whose NIS 5,000-6,000 gowns are stocked by Ita Arel at her Tel Aviv Briant Boutique. Making her modeling debut was recently crowned Miss Europe, Lilach Ben-Simon, 17. An Ashdod 12th-grader, she has not been getting beauty-queen treatment from her



Ravit Yarkoni (left) and recently-crowned Miss Europe Lilach Ben-Simon model some of designer Helena Gainville's creations on the M/V 'Atlante.'

teachers. More than 15 minutes late to an English class, she was made to stand outside.

A SEVERE decline in his finances led tycoon Meshulam Riklis to bow out of sponsorship of the Israel Open tennis tournament, whose organizers found another tennis buff willing to pick up the ball. Joyce Eisenberg-Keefe, who in recent years has contributed something like \$4 million to tennis in Israel, readily put up the \$275,000 in prize money for this year's tournament. Eisenberg and her late husband, Ben Eisenberg, became actively associated with the Israel Tennis Center in 1981, when they contributed \$350,000 for its newly inaugurated Katamon facility. Joyce and her second husband, Californian artist and illustrator Mel Keefe, arrived this week from their home in Toronto to attend the tournament. They also met with Jerusalem Mayor Ehud Olmert to discuss other areas of support.

ANOTHER CANADIAN who met with Olmert this week was shopping-mall developer David Azriel, who presented the mayor with a vivid painting of Jerusalem by Canadian/Israeli artist Yehuda Shaki. The painting, a gift of the Canadian branch of the Jerusalem Foundation, was promptly hung in the mayor's office.

THE GALA Camille Pissarro preview dinner organized by Hadassah Levin, director of the local

friends and sponsors of the Israel Museum, had been planned in meticulous detail. But neither she nor friends-and-sponsors chairman Yehuda Raveh had foreseen that the splendidly attired guests would have to bear broileries to enter the banquet tent. The red carpet leading from the Weisbord exhibition pavilion to the dining area was rain-soaked and museum staff frantically swept water away from tables. Referring to the exhibition itself, guest curator Joachim Pissarro, the great-grandson of the Impressionist innovator, praised the "fantastic involvement on the part of a community to make such events possible. There is an amazing degree of commitment which I have not seen anywhere else," he said, reserving special praise for curator-in-charge Stephanie Rachum.

FORMER PRISONER of Zion Ida Nudel, who tomorrow celebrates the seventh anniversary of her aliya, did not expect when fighting for her right to leave Russia for Israel, that she would one day be demonstrating against Israeli police. Nudel this week joined Judea and Samaria settlement activist Anat Cohen and other women outside the police lock-up in Jerusalem's Russian Compound in a protest against alleged police brutality and political harassment. Cohen, a resident of Hebron, and the mother of eight, was accused of disobeying police and disrupting them in the performance of their duty. She was freed

on bail following her arrest towards the end of last week. The officers who apprehended her allegedly denied the nursing mother the right to go home first for her two-month-old baby. Another former Prisoner of Zion participating in the demonstration was Yosef Mendelovich.

IT HASN'T been an easy week for Foreign Minister Shimon Peres. Even before it was generally known that he'd missed out on the Nobel Peace Prize, he suffered a political blow with the election of Yossi Katz to the chairmanship of the Knesset labor and social affairs committee. Katz had the backing of Prime Minister Rabin and Finance Minister Avraham Shohat. Peres, who had been campaigning for Dalia Itzik, failed to persuade Rafi Eilat to withdraw from the race. Political pundits say had there been two candidates, instead of three, Itzik, who lost by four votes, would have emerged victorious, because she would have received most of the eight votes cast for Eilat.

FRUSTRATED in his efforts to establish an animal shelter in Galilee, Melvin Simons of Kibbutz Kfar Hanassi wrote a play which pillories municipalities, government ministers and even the president for indifference towards animal welfare. Israel Radio will air the work some time this month.

GOVERNMENT ENTERPRISES targeted for privatization



Haytam Mousad (above left) and Arne Maeland: artists with a pluralistic message; Joyce Eisenberg-Keefe (far right) serves up some tennis prize money. (Kenneth Fisher)

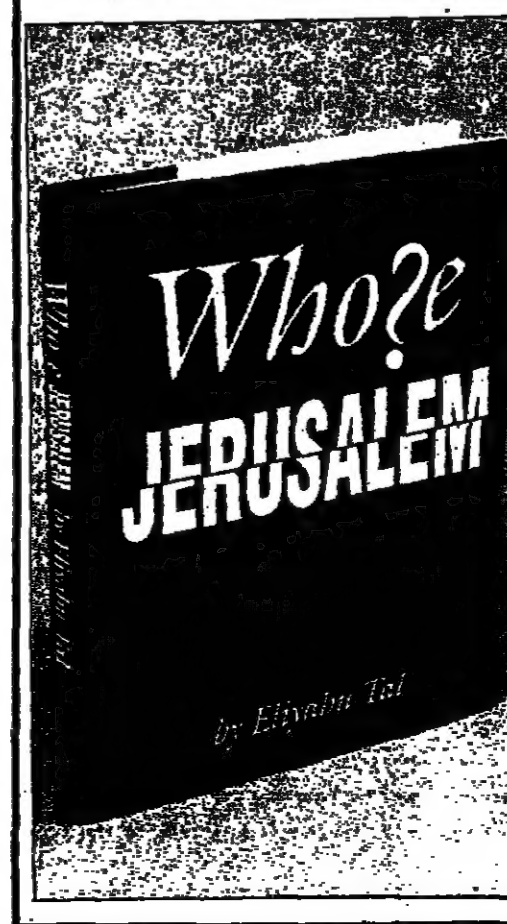
and local authorities with complaints about the government may want to turn to former Treasury Wage Director Shalom Granit, who, since resigning from the Finance Ministry two months ago, has become a private consultant. No doubt, he will have his plate full.

VISITORS TO Upan Akiva in Netanya can see two recently un-

veiled statues which express the pluralism on which Upan Akiva is based. One, created by Norwegian sculptor Arne Maeland, is of a woman supporting a bridge. The other is a camel by Druse artist Haytam Mousad. The original created by Mousad 10 years ago was damaged, and he suggested creating a new one. The earlier camel had been used for the Upan Akiva logo, a teacher-led

camel being ridden by a Jew, an Arab and a student from abroad. Maeland came to Upan Akiva two years ago following the Nobel Peace Prize nomination of the institution's founder and director, Shulamit Katznelson. Many Norwegians made a point of traveling to Netanya in reaction to the publicity which both Katznelson and Upan Akiva received in the Norwegian media.

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